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Bush announces 'no fly zone'

Saddam moves jets south to confront West

By JAMIE DETTMER in WASHINGTON and CHRISTOPHER WALKER in NICOSIA

THE Middle East was last night braced for a renewed confrontation between Iraq and the West after the formal announcement of a 24-hour ultimatum imposing a strict "no fly zone" in southern Iraq below the 32nd parallel.

The announcement of the zone came only hours after the Pentagon claimed that Iraq has moved several Mi-24s, its top fighters, from bases in the north to airfields just above the 32nd parallel. The reason for the redeployment was unclear last night, but it suggests Iraq may mount a cat-and-mouse challenge to the allies by flying planes in and out of the prohibited zone quickly.

As Western diplomats informed the Iraqi ambassador at the United Nations of the "no fly zone", President Bush indicated that further military steps might be taken against Baghdad to stop any ground attacks on Shia Muslim rebels in southern Iraq.

In a televised statement announcing the exclusion zone, Mr Bush said the allies were not seeking to partition Iraq but force its compliance with UN resolutions ending the Gulf war.

Within minutes of his announcement, Arab delegates at Middle East peace talks in Washington condemned the "no fly zone" and said peace negotiations could be endangered. "Anger in the region will explode if the United States kills Iraqi pilots," said a senior Arab official.

Just before the ultimatum, Iraq's information minister, Youssef Hammadi, said in an interview that Iraq would use its air defence system if it was attacked by Gulf allies barring its warplanes and helicopters from the Shia south.

Baghdad, claiming it was ready for a showdown, depicting the move as an Israeli-inspired plot to dismember Iraq into three mini-states dominated separately by the Kurds and the Sunni and Shia Muslims.

"Our great people... and our valiant armed forces are fully prepared to confront the enemies and topple their imperialist and Zionist schemes," said Al-Thawra, the paper of the ruling Baath party, in bellicose rhetoric reminiscent of that used on the eve of last year's Gulf war. "We are ready to confront them and crush their criminal plan. We defy the charlatan Major, the cursed Bush," the paper declared in a banner headline.

Allied warplanes, operating from Saudi Arabia and the US aircraft carrier Independence in central Gulf waters, will start enforcing the ban at 14.15 (GMT) today. Most of the policing of the zone, 54,000 square miles, will fall on America, which has more than 100 fighters in Saudi Arabia, including F15 and F16 aircraft, and 78 warplanes on the Independence. The military operation will be directed by a 30-strong air warfare battle group based in

Riyadh, the Saudi capital, and commanded by Lieutenant General Michael Nelson.

The Pentagon announced yesterday that surveillance aircraft, Grumman E2s, were already monitoring airspace in the zone. Later today Boeing E3 early warning and command aircraft will start flying. Six RAF Tornados will today fly to Saudi Arabia equipped to ensure that nothing moves south of the 32nd parallel without the allies knowing about it. The RAF plans to keep a constant watch on the estimated 75,000 Iraqi troops grouped around the Shia marsh Arabs and to ensure that no Iraqi aircraft flies in the area.

An Iraqi Shia opposition group based in Tehran, the Islamic Action Organisation, claimed that an army division and a brigade were moved to the south from the Baghdad and Kirkuk areas to "reinforce the economic and military blockade of the area".

Among the contingencies being taken into account in the West was that Saddam might retaliate with Scud missile attacks on Saudi Arabia, Bahrain or Kuwait, all equipped with US Patriot anti-missile batteries. A Scud attack on Israel was considered less likely.

In Baghdad yesterday, a senior United Nations official said Iraq had issued a warning that all remaining UN guards would have to leave if attacks were launched under the allied scheme. The number of UN staff there has dwindled to about 75 and harassment of UN personnel was feared. A crucial test will come next Monday when a new UN inspection team is due in Baghdad.

Many allied officials see the new zone as merely a "first step" in a renewed drive to undermine Saddam. It is hoped that it will encourage large defections from his armed forces.

Tornados fly out, page 2
Letters, page 13

UN ready to expand Bosnia peace force

By MICHAEL BINYON AND TIM JUDAH

THE United Nations has received offers of more troops to expand its forces escorting food convoys in the former Yugoslavia, UN officials said yesterday at the opening of the London Conference.

Diplomats said this could lead to a greatly enlarged UN peacekeeping force in Bosnia, pre-empting any decision by Nato to send troops outside UN command, as envisaged in recent UN resolutions.

With Sarajevo in flames as fighting continued, the conference heard powerful warnings to Serbia that unless it renounced territory won by war and halted the fighting in Bosnia it faced international isolation and further "punitive sanctions", including communications with the outside world being cut.

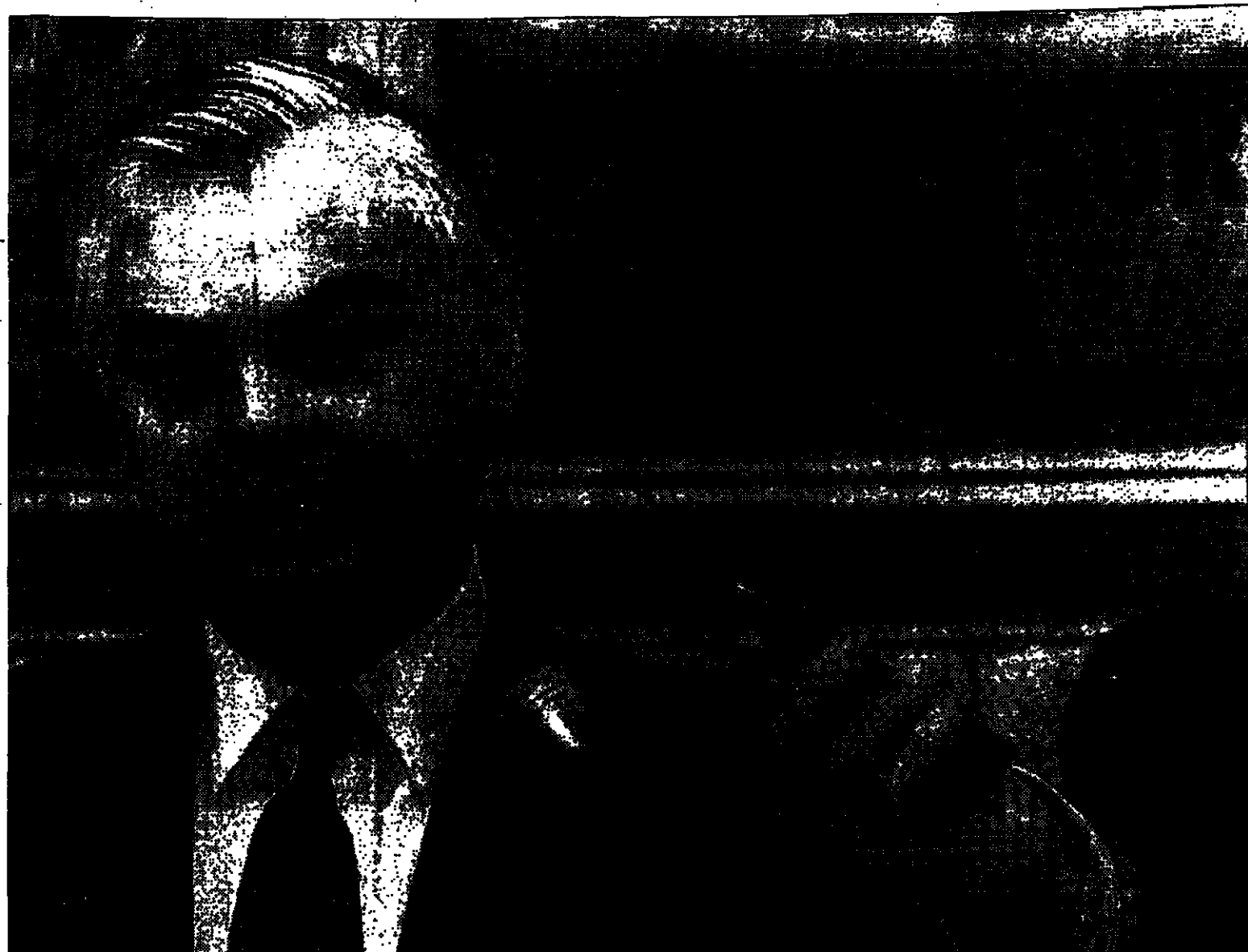
The warnings, voiced by John Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary,

who spoke for the European Community, came as speakers from all the big powers called for an immediate end to the fighting in Bosnia and urgent international action to speed up relief for its victims.

Sarajevo burned as Bosnian Serbs and Muslims exchanged a barrage of mortar and artillery attacks which left 28 people dead. Hopes that the fighting would die down during the talks were dashed as the Bosnian capital saw its most intense battles for a month.

The city was rocked by explosions, and buildings burned and looted. Town hall. Volunteers formed a chain to carry water into the building.

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Diary, page 12



Taking the strain: Norman Lamont outside the Treasury yesterday making his direct challenge to the markets in support of the pound

Renting has the edge over home buying

With the housing market in turmoil, more people are thinking twice before investing in bricks and mortar. *Lin Jenkins asks if they are wise*

Renting a home is more profitable than buying in the short term, according to research published today by the Council of Mortgage Lenders.

The financial advantages of home ownership, through rising prices, mortgage interest tax relief and exemption from capital gains tax, which for years made it more economical to buy rather than rent, have been eroded by the recession. But in the long term, owner-occupation is expected to remain the most popular form of tenure.

The recent fall in house prices together with the decline in the value of mortgage interest tax relief since the mid-70s, has, according to Lande Abisgun, an economist with the council, opened to question the assumption that ownership is the most financially viable option.

Taking three hypothetical examples and making certain financial assumptions, she compared the cost of buying a £55,000 house with renting where there was an annual 5 per cent increase in house prices, where there was no rise and where prices were falling by 2 per cent a year.

In the first case, buying would save £1,713 over renting in the first year. In the second example, renting gave a net advantage of £1,113 and where prices were falling, an advantage of £2,288.

The examples take into account the relationship between the movement of house prices and rents. Rising house prices lead to higher rents since fewer properties are likely to be let, while falling prices have the opposite effect.

Continued on page 16, col 1

Lamont shows his determination to sink or swim with the pound

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR AND COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound pulled through another bumpy day yesterday after Norman Lamont staked his personal credibility in a direct challenge to the markets. But despite heavy and open intervention by the Bank of England and the Chancellor's readiness to raise interest rates if necessary, the currency remained in intensive care.

Political allies and opponents acknowledged that Mr Lamont had put his political future at risk by summoning cameras to the Treasury as markets opened to announce the government's commitment to the exchange-rate mechanism and to its refusal to consider devaluation. Should either policy be reversed, it would be difficult for him to remain as Chancellor, even if he then wished to do so.

There are going to be no devaluations, no leaving the ERM. We are absolutely committed to the ERM. It is at the centre of our policy," Mr Lamont said. "We are going to maintain sterling's parity and we will do whatever is necessary — and I hope

there is no doubt about that at all."

His words steadied the pound, but only slightly. Less than helpful interventions from the Bundesbank and a French opinion poll showing that most of those intending to vote were against ratification of the Maastricht Treaty soon had it bumping along the bottom while reactions to his remarks advertised again Tory divisions over Europe and the economy.

Having risen above Dm 2.8 after Bank of England buying, the pound fell back when it was reported that Reimut Jochimsen, a Bundesbank council member, was suggesting that there was "potential for realignment" of the deutschmark. When Mr Jochimsen delivered the speech, the offending passage was not included. But the Treasury's agitation showed when spokesmen assured the markets that no EC partners were calling for realignment.

The pound's difficulties remained grist to the mill for Tory Euro-sceptics while loyalists helped to prepare the party for a rise in interest

rates. Sir Teddy Taylor, chairman of the European Reform Group, called the Chancellor's statement a mistake and said he had "put his head on the chopping block". While Toby Jessel said "My advice would be not to increase interest rates but to cut them even if that involves leaving the ERM."

Their comments were dismissed as extremely unhelpful by Tory party vice-chairman Tim Smith, who said: "They know that if we were to follow the alternatives there is no guarantee whatever that we would be able to cut interest rates." For John Butterfield, the only credible strategist was to make people believe in the pound. "The reason the deutschmark is so strong is that the Bundesbank has never flinched from taking unpopular and painful decisions whenever necessary."

Ian Taylor, PPS to William Waledegrave, said that some colleagues were trying to exploit sterling's difficulties to discredit the Maastricht treaty. "The turbulence in the markets underline how vital it is for British interests that we are within the ERM. Anyone trying to undermine that is guaranteeing that British interest rates will have to be several points higher."

Mr Lamont won support from Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, who described the Chancellor's morning statement as a "desperate last throw" that he hoped would work. Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, accused Mr Lamont of wasting an opportunity.

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Record numbers take and pass GCSE exams

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

RECORD-breaking GCSE results, which today see most entrants achieving the equivalent of an O-level pass, have brought calls for the government to reconsider plans to limit marks for coursework.

Teachers and opposition politicians claimed that the fifth successive rise in GCSE pass rates owed much to the motivation provided by projects, which are to be cut back in 1994. Coursework marks are to be limited to 20 per cent in most subjects.

Eric Forth, the schools minister, made no mention of the coursework in congratulating

pupils and their teachers on the results. He said that the improvement would mean more young people than ever continuing their education beyond the age of 16.

The number of GCSE entries rose by 1.3 per cent to 5,154,541 at a time when the number of 15-year-olds is falling, showing that more subjects are being taken by each candidate. The overall pass rate rose only slightly, but the proportion awarded one of the top three grades increased by 2.3 per cent.

Fears over standards, page 5

Messy desk is sign of a sophisticated mind

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

UNTIDY desks may provide the key to new, user-friendly filing systems, the British Association for the Advancement of Science was told yesterday.

People with desks heaped with paper do not have untidy minds, Mark Lansdale, of Loughborough University, said. Often they had devised effective personal systems for finding documents. The growing pile of paper was not as inefficient a way of dealing with information as it appeared.

Dr Lansdale likened the messy desk to a volcano: "a vaguely conical heap of papers with a crater in the middle". Documents came into the crater and were dealt with; others were deferred, moving to the lip. If unimportant, they migrated to the edge of the desk, fell off and were thrown away by cleaners. "Documents to which this happens are

defining themselves as useless," Dr Lansdale said. "It is a stable system within which documents can be recovered, like an archaeologist digging through successive chronological layers." The system failed only when the mess became so intolerable that it had to be tidied, and the structure was lost.

The way in which memory was used to recall roughly where a document lay was also akin to archaeology, he said. It was located by time — how deeply it was buried — and context.

Unfortunately, he said, no existing filing systems or data bases used this type of memory, called episodic or autobiographical memory. They used semantic memory, in which documents must first be categorised. "Human beings are very inefficient at remembering these categories."

Dr Lansdale has devised an experimental filing system, called Memoris, in an attempt to mimic the way the human

memory works. Documents are coded in a multiplicity of ways, by date, colour and other features. Every time a document is used, its use is recorded in an electronic diary, so that remembering the last time it was seen can aid retrieving it. The system was at least five years away from the market, Dr Lansdale said. "Until that moment comes, the office mess seems well suited to the way the human memory works."

If so, tidying up could be a serious mistake. "In precisely the same way that a farmer's plough can destroy an archaeological site, so rummaging around for documents slowly mixes them up and decreases the ability to recover them by memory and reconstruction," he said. "How often do we hear people say, 'I've just tidied up — I can't find a thing'."

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Leading article, page 13

FAIR PLAY FOR YUGOSLAVIA AT THE LONDON CONFERENCE

We are a group of British citizens who have known and loved Yugoslavia for many years and like everyone else, we are horrified at the catastrophe that has befallen that country. Narrow nationalism, bordering on insanity, is rampant on all sides and has been cunningly manipulated by outsiders, particularly by Austria and Germany. Civil wars are the most terrifying of conflicts; this one is no exception. No side has behaved well. However those of us who know the country, its people, their culture and their past, are moved to outrage at the one-sided reporting of this war: The Serbian people alone has been blamed. With one or two honourable exceptions, no journalist has gone to see, hear or record the horrors experienced by the half-million refugees which have been forced to flee to Serbia and Montenegro. "Ethnic cleansing" is indeed particularly horrible but, as pointed out by Simon Wiesenthal, it was begun by the Croats nationalist regime in 1941-45. It still continues. It has always formed a central part of Croatian nationalist doctrine.

Europe is familiar with the crimes of Auschwitz and Treblinka. British troops liberated Belsen. But few have heard of Jasenovac, where hundreds of thousands of Serbs were exterminated as part of the deliberate policy of the 'Independent State of Croatia' (1941-45). This 'state' included within its borders the whole of today's Bosnia-Herzegovina. The deportations and slaughters in why the Serbs are now only 32% of the population of Bosnia, when 50 years ago they formed the majority community. These memories live on. Who indeed could forget such things? That, above all else, is why the Serbs insist on the recognition by Europe of their status, their sufferings and their rights as a people.

The Slovans, Croats, Serbs, Montenegrins and others are all small peoples. Together they could be strong. Apart, each will be exploited by strong neighbours — sooner rather than later. But if 'self-determination' is regarded as a democratic right, then there can be no exception made for those who wish to remain in a state called Yugoslavia.

We call upon the British government as convenors of the London conference, to adopt an even-handed approach: the sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro, which remain a stifling injustice, must be lifted and the new form of Yugoslavia recognized.

FRIENDS OF YUGOSLAVIA

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Journey's end: Richard Shenouda, the survivor of the capsized speedboat, which is shown being hauled ashore near Llandudno



Five anglers feared dead as boat sinks

By PAUL WILKINSON

FIVE people were believed drowned yesterday after a night fishing trip off the north Wales coast went wrong. A sixth member of the party was in hospital, recovering from hypothermia and exhaustion after spending two hours in the water.

Coastguards who spent more than 24 hours searching for the party after their 17ft speedboat capsized in rough seas off Llandudno criticised the foolhardiness of the group for setting out in a boat that was poorly equipped and too small.

The survivor, Richard Shenouda, 19, from Llandudno, told his rescuers that the engine had failed and would not restart because the battery was faulty. The boat had only one lifebelt on board and distress flares would not work because they were damp.

A Holyhead coastguard said: "Personally I would say no more than two people should have been in the boat, four in calm weather, but I certainly wouldn't go out at night in it at all."

Mr Shenouda said that when they set out the sea was quite calm, but the waves became rougher as they drifted. "As we pulled up, the anchor rope snapped. We

made several attempts to shout for help when we were drifting out, but we weren't heard.

"We were drifting for about half an hour. We weren't worried at first because we had the flares, but when they didn't work there was bit of panic. The sea got a bit rough and the boat capsized, leaving all six of us to jump out.

"I went ashore to try to get me rescue services, but I didn't make it. I was picked up just off the pier. It was rough and took me about two hours to get from where we were to the end of the pier, about a mile."

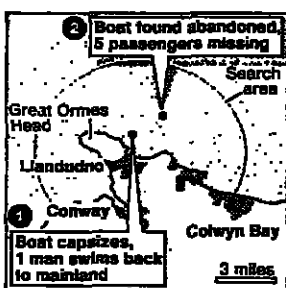
Coastguards said he was lucky that the sea temperature was about 14C. The group of five men and a woman had left the seaside resort about 7.30pm on Monday. Soon after 10pm anglers on Llandudno pier heard shouting in the dark out to sea. One of

them, Reg Davies from Liverpool, thought it was youngsters skylarking and shouted back for them to be quiet, but a voice replied, "We aren't messing about, we are all bloody drowning." He stayed while a companion raised the alarm. Mr Davies said the screaming went on for about an hour before fading as they were apparently taken out to sea.

Three air-sea rescue helicopters joined the search and three lifeboats were launched. Coastguard cliff rescue teams searched through Monday night and all day yesterday along the banks of the Conway estuary. Soon after dawn yesterday a helicopter crew spotted the upturned hull of the boat but an exhaustive search failed to find any sign of the missing anglers. Last night divers were preparing for an underwater search for bodies.

Those still unaccounted for are Tracey Hughes, 28, Barry Palin, 20, Christian Mills, 22, and his brother Justin, 19, all from Llandudno, and Alex Yates from Rhos-on-Sea, near Llandudno.

The white speedboat had also been in trouble last Sunday. She was towed into Rhos-on-Sea by a local boat last Sunday after being unable to restart the engine.



Lamont rating slips back in the City

By ALAN HAMILTON

JUST in case there is the slightest scintilla of doubt about the Government's policy, said the Chancellor, Norman Lamont, in the course of 137 words on the steps of the Treasury yesterday morning. Scintilla? Yes, spark, hint or trace. It takes more than a scintilla to light a damp squib. There is, they were saying on trading floors of the City by noon, no whiff of sinned chancellor around here.

His timing, the City thought, was pretty dull. Promised for eight, not appearing until twenty past, and then having the gall to say he would like a word before the markets opened. Your average currency trader is at his screen no later than 7.45.

So here is our poor pound, something of an innocent bystander at a duel between the dollar and the deutschmark, hobbling along at 2.7950 to the mark when Mr Lamont comes on the early morning screens. There is an air of expectancy. But his 137 words contain, in the view of the City, absolutely nothing at all.

David Simmonds, economist on the currency trading floor at Midland Montagu, was in front of his screen well before eight. "There was speculation that the Chancellor

would break his silence and say something relevant. We were hoping he would say something positive, like what action, if needed, would be taken to defend the pound. He might even have mentioned the magic words *interest rates*; but he said nothing."

Nikki Nelson-Smith, sitting at the next screen to Mr Simmonds, said: "He might even have said that the Bank of England were intervening to support sterling. They did, but he didn't say it. He really needs to make it look as though he is being more forceful in defence of the currency."

Within minutes of Mr Lamont spewing his thin gruel upon an expectant world, the pound had shot up to 2.80 to the mark; such tiny percentages mean much in the arcane world of moneychanging. But Mr Lamont got no credit whatsoever. Within minutes of him speaking, the Bank of England had mobilised its \$45 billion (£22.63 billion) war chest to buy sterling on the market and support the price.

But it didn't last long. Just over an hour after Mr Lamont had delivered the Sermonette On The Steps, Reuters news agency was flashing a leak from a speech which a relatively minor official of the Deutsche Bundesbank was due to make later in the day, saying that there was room for ERM realignment.

So sensitive is the market that within minutes of this news, the pound had dropped back from its brief 2.80 peak to 2.79, marginally worse than the position in which it had started the day.

Our finance minister had been upstaged by a speech from a lowly provincial German functionary which he hasn't even made yet. Next time, perhaps we should get the branch manager of the TSB in Wigan to make the speech.

Bumpy day, page 1
Sterling lifted, page 17

Major to consider French poll plea

By NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITONS may have been denied a referendum on the Maastricht treaty, but their politicians may get in on the act.

John Major will decide this weekend whether to respond to a cry for help by President Mitterrand and appear on French television next week to call for a "yes" vote in France's referendum, on September 20.

Euro-sceptic Tory MPs are preparing to aid the "no" lobby in France, and, with polls suggesting a photo-finish, the pro-EC camp has no intention of giving them a clear run.

Downing Street sources confirmed yesterday that Mr Major has had an invitation from TFI, France's equivalent of ITV, to give his views.

Sir Richard Body, the Tory MP who advised Danish anti-Maastricht campaigners, said that if Mr Major went on television, he could not keep opposing a referendum here, an idea he has denounced as a device of dictators. "If he believes in it for France, it should be right for the British people, too," he said.

President unstack, page 11



Body: Major cannot have it both ways

RAF Tornados fly to Dhahran today

Electronic equipment on RAF aircraft will play an important role in enforcing the no-fly zone in Iraq, says Harvey Elliott

SIX RAF Tornados will fly to Saudi Arabia today, equipped to ensure that no aircraft or tank moves south of the 32nd parallel in Iraq without the allies knowing about it.

Three of the jets will carry the GEC Ferranti Tiald device capable of spotting tanks, aircraft or troops over a wide area from well above 20,000ft, while the other three will carry the RMS 3,000 infra-red system, with which they will sweep the desert from a height of little more than 100ft. By using the two systems in parallel the RAF plans to maintain a constant watch on the estimated 75,000 Iraqi troops now grouped around the Shia marsh Arabs and to ensure that no Iraqi aircraft, either fixed-wing or helicopter, flies in the area.

One of the first jobs of the Tornado airmen will be to take detailed video pictures of earthworks now appearing near Al Amarah and An Nasiriyah in southern Iraq. Satellites and high-flying Awaacs have been monitoring the progress of the earthworks as they move further into the marshes, but so far little is known of their purpose. The Tornados will quickly be able to establish whether they are hardened roads, being built ready for a large

armoured assault on the insurgents in the area or whether they are some form of canal to be used to drain the marshes and divert the vital water supplies on which the local population depends.

For some of the Tornado crews it will be their second tour of combat duty in the Gulf. Tiald, which stands for Thermal Imaging Airborne Laser Designator, was rushed into service during the Gulf war more than two years ahead of its intended deployment date.

Only ten navigators had been trained in using the two pods then available. Some of the most experienced are being sent back to fly over the same areas in which they carried out successful sorties during the war.

The Tiald crews will be drawn from 2 and 617 Squadrons, flying Tornado GR1s, and the GR1As, equipped with RMS 3,000, will come from 27 Squadron. Once in Dhahran they will come under joint allied control, liaising with French and American Air Force commanders, who will provide fighter cover for the RAF jets and any ground attacks that might be needed to enforce the no-fly rule.

No-fly zone, page 1

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman murdered in betting shop

The manageress of a betting shop was killed after being stabbed repeatedly with a long-bladed kitchen knife as she counted the shop's takings, police said last night. The killer escaped with £350. Ladbroke's has offered a £10,000 reward for information about the murder of Sian Collier, 24, in her office in Newport, Gwent. The killer, who would have been heavily bloodstained, walked out of the shop, closing the front door behind him, police said.

Two policemen discovered Mrs Collier's body on Tuesday night, alerted by her husband, Andrew, when she failed to return to their home in Pontypool. The lights in the office were on and racing monitor screens were still running. Police believe that she was killed between 5.50pm and 6.30pm. The murder weapon was found in the shop.

Ladbroke's said: "Mrs Collier was very popular with customers and staff alike." Det Chief Supt Mark Walters, head of Gwent CID, said: "This young woman's family are absolutely stunned. She was, by every account, well known and liked and her betting shop was a friendly and well-run place." Police believe that Mrs Collier, a St John Ambulance volunteer, may have recognised her attacker and could have been trying to telephone for help as she was killed.

Alan Tucker, an assistant commissioner for St John Ambulance, said that Mrs Collier had been a member of the Gwent Brigade for 15 years, after starting as a cadet. "She was a very outstanding girl. This is a dreadful shock."

Stolen casket found

The £200,000 Florentine casket stolen from the Victoria & Albert Museum last Sunday has been recovered after nationwide publicity. A dealer in the West End of London is understood to have bought it yesterday, only to discover its true identity later. He has asked police to keep his identity secret. "He will be out of pocket," Chelsea police said yesterday. The casket bears the Medici arms, grand ducal crown and Florentine lily, and is decorated with panels containing the figures of Mars and Minerva.

Petrol tanker on fire

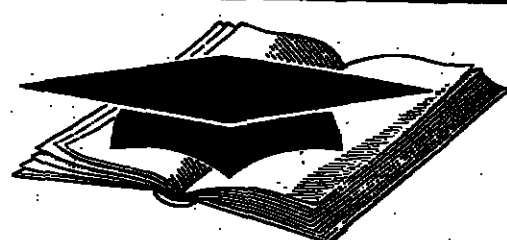


A river of fire engulfed 42 cars yesterday after a petrol tanker carrying 8,000 gallons of fuel rolled on its side as it served to avoid a van. Seconds later the blaze erupted as petrol spilled from the tanker, above. The liquid ran down a side street in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, setting light to everything in its path, including parked cars, and then swept into a swimming pool's car park, engulfing more vehicles. The normally busy Newcastle Road was deserted when the accident took place and just three people were taken to hospital with slight burns. David Knight, 47, the tanker driver, of Hartlepool, Cleveland, was burnt on his face and arms as he struggled to escape from his cab.

NHS buys hospital

A financially desperate private hospital is being bought by its National Health Service equivalent next door. The recession and health authority success in reducing NHS waiting lists have put the 18-month-old West Peaks Hospital at Macclesfield, Cheshire, out of business. The purchase is to be completed today. West Peaks cost more than £6 million to build, but Macclesfield Health Authority is paying only £2 million. Macclesfield District General Hospital will open a 56-bed orthopaedics ward at West Peaks, freeing space for a long-awaited maternity unit in the general hospital. Two health care firms built hospitals in the town, and Bioplan found West Peaks unviable.

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THE TIMES

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KENWOOD

John 150

The British Association at Southampton: design, genetics, pollution, sea research and body scans

Genes tell the story of a nation divided

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

BRITAIN'S ancient past, when lands were colonised by Vikings, Angles and other invaders sweeping in from Europe, is still echoed in the genes of the nation's population.

Researchers have identified 12 national boundaries in which the genetic make-up of the people differs markedly from those living nearby or in other parts of the country, the British Association for the Advancement of Science in Southampton was told.

The findings, based on detailed analysis of 14 different blood features including blood groups, proteins and enzymes, have been made by a team led by Professor Robert Sokal of the State University of New York.

The researchers believe that the blood features reflect the different genetic sequences that are common or rare in the peoples living in those areas, which in turn reflects their

different racial pasts. Derek Roberts of Newcastle University, who has spent much of his working life collating the data on which the study was based, said that some of the boundaries could be linked with historical evidence indicating that as new invaders arrived older racial groups were pushed further west and north.

One boundary cuts through East Anglia, separating Suffolk from Norfolk. Historical evidence indicates that different groups of Angles settled in these areas and that is reflected in the different dialects of today. Other boundaries separate the northwest Highlands from the Outer Hebrides and Northern, Ireland from Scotland's west coast.

Boundaries are also found along the Marches between England and Wales, dividing East Anglia from Yorkshire and Humberside and the Orkneys from the rest of the

Scottish mainland. "One also picks off the southwest peninsula. It picks off Devon and Cornwall from the rest, which was really quite surprising," Professor Roberts said. The popular view was that Cornwall and Wales shared a Celtic past, which should be reflected in a similar genetic make-up.

Malcolm Smith of Durham University said that the genes in the two areas were "not especially similar or as similar as one might expect if they were both Celtic-founded populations". It was possible that the strong Celtic tradition of Cornwall was cultural rather than based on large numbers of Celtic settlers.

Studies have also found that the genes of the populations of the central Lake District are closer to the population of Norway than are the populations of Carlisle, Whitehaven and the rest of Cumbria. The findings match historical evidence that the central Lake District had a Viking past, illustrated by such place names as Rydale and Threlkeld.

Professor Roberts said that the population of the Orkneys appeared to be the most ancient, at the limit of north-west Europe's genetic make-up. There was also a high prevalence of certain proteins linked with auto-immune diseases such as multiple sclerosis, which was reflected in the health of those islands. Professor Roberts said the higher incidence of stomach cancer in North Wales might also reflect different historical settlement patterns.

The increasing opportunity of travel and a rise in racially mixed marriages has prompted some researchers to suggest that inherited disease might decline as fewer people marry within the communities where they were born. Professor Roberts said, however, that this was not likely to be the case. He said the new people coming in were bringing with them different genetic diseases. Sickle cell anaemia from the West Indies, for example, was one of a number of diseases unknown in Britain before the last war.



She sets the limit: the astronomer Heather Couper addressing delegates at the British Association meeting yesterday. She said that astronomy was not an esoteric science, but one that was increasingly accessible.

Waves grow taller in Atlantic

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE North Atlantic is becoming rougher. Observations from weather ships 300 miles west of Ireland and the Seven Stones lighthouse off the South tip of Cornwall have shown that average wave heights increased by about 30 per cent in the past 30 years.

Sheldie Bacon, of the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences' Dagon Laboratory at Wormley in Surrey, outlined the puzzle data yesterday to the association's annual conference. Seven Stones, the average wave height increased from 1.8 metres in 1960 to 2.4 metres in 1985, when observations ceased because Trinity House made the lighthouse automatic. This increase is matched at the more northerly station. Overall, he said, the increase was 30 per cent — or 1 per cent a year.

Waves are caused by wind and the obvious feature of the observations, first reported in the late 1800s, is that there is no corresponding evidence of stronger winds. To try to find the cause Mr Bacon studied satellite pictures of the atmosphere over the Atlantic and found a steady increase in the average difference in pressure between the low over Iceland and the high generally found over the Azores. This change correlated closely with the increase in wave heights. Although the winds are no stronger, they may blow more consistently in the same direction than before, possibly because of the pressure trends. This would enable larger waves to be built up by winds of the same average speed.

MOST pollutants found in the sea around Britain's coast get there through the rivers, according to a survey by the National Rivers Authority.

Jan Pentreath, the authority's chief scientist, told the annual meeting of the British Association yesterday that a £1 million survey of 129 rivers, 131 sewage outfalls and 105 industrial outfalls had revealed the route by which nine of the most hazardous pollutants reached the sea.

The pollutants included metals such as mercury, cadmium, zinc and copper, and chemicals such as a polychlorinated biphenyls, pesticides, and agriculture fertilisers.

In most cases, rivers were the source of more than half of

the pollutants reaching the sea, with the balance coming from sewage works and industry based along the coast.

Three-quarters of the lead and 88 per cent of the nitrate, for example, came down rivers. One of the few exceptions was cadmium, of which more than 60 per cent came from coastal industry.

Dr Pentreath told the association that it was essential to know exactly how all these chemicals got into the sea so that they could be controlled more effectively.

"The real and difficult task is that of reducing the input of various chemicals — particularly insecticides, herbicides, and some industrial chemicals — which arise diffusely via

rivers or through sewage outfalls," Dr Pentreath said.

The authority's approach was attacked by Susan Mayer from the environmental pressure group Greenpeace, who said that the consents given to companies by the National Rivers Authority for discharges amounted to "legalised pollution".

Ms Mayer added: "Not only does this allow toxic chemicals to be discharged into our waterways with impunity, but often allows discharge of chemicals which have not even been characterised."

"Therefore many pipelines are completely unregulated, the companies responsible cannot be prosecuted; only the environment will suffer as a result."

Machine offers hope for liver patients

A BODY scanner developed by British researchers may improve the treatment of children with liver disease and help in the design of artificial breasts for mastectomy victims. It would also cut out the need for men's tailors to take inside leg measurements (Nick Nuttall writes).

The scanner, called the Loughborough Anthropometric Shadow Scanner, has been developed by a team in the human sciences department at Loughborough University. It uses four narrow shafts of light to plot a subject's shape, size and area.

The researchers are working with Marks & Spencer and artificial breast makers to improve the design of bras for women who have had breasts removed. The scanner would calculate the amount of tissue removed during an operation.

The developers are also working with scientists at the Department of Child Health at King's College Hospital, London on a link between liver diseases in children and the surface areas of their bodies. It is hoped that three-dimensional images can improve treatment.

Better understanding of people's shapes may also lead to improved designs for clothes, furniture and cars. Visitors to a tailor of the future may find themselves standing in a body stocking on a turntable, with images fed into a computer. The information could be turned into a two-dimensional pattern within minutes, from which a suit could be cut.

People with facial disfigurements suffer subtle forms of rejection even when those they meet try very hard to conceal them. Ray Bull, of the University of Portsmouth, said research confirmed that disfigured people were pitied, subordinated and ignored by those they met.

In one experiment, a researcher tried knocking on doors collecting for a children's charity. At some doors she had her normal appearance while at others she had a small port-wine stain painted below one eye. She collected less when she had the stain.

Makers blamed for baffling technology

ADULTS who feel inadequate as they struggle to cope with a blinking video recorder or a flashing microwave oven should blame the makers (Nick Nuttall writes).

Harold Thimbleby of Stirling University said yesterday that designers of household equipment appeared obsessed with creating an increasingly bewildering array of buttons rather than machines that were easy to use. Manufacturers had the temerity to suggest that bewildered adults should seek help from their children.

Professor Thimbleby said that children were more successful because of their habit of pressing scores of buttons at random and for many hours. Adults, however, tried to apply logic to devices that defied such thought processes.

He said that his home video recorder and television together had more than 105 buttons. Many car radios had more than 25 buttons and tiny screens with writing a mere 1.5mm high, and the frustrations of working them had led to accidents in which pedestrians had been killed.

Professor Thimbleby urged manufacturers to cast aside their enthusiasm for sophisticated displays that would increase their profits. They should return to simple ergonomic designs with clearly written manuals, he said.

Researchers in Cambridge have developed a pager-sized device that will remind workers to pass messages to their colleagues. The users will programme the mini-computer with details of messages and their intended recipients. The devices communicate with infra-red beams and when two colleagues meet an alarm sounds and a screen displays the reminder.

Details of the device were disclosed by Abigail Sellen of the Rank Xerox EuroPARC in Cambridge. Dr Sellen said people relied on passive memory aids such as diaries and notes, and on watches with beeping alarms.



Handy reminder: the Cambridge 'notebook'

She said that she envisaged the installation of infra-red devices on equipment such as coffee machines that could trigger reminders about who liked sugar or low-fat milk in their drink. In the future the devices might be triggered by infra-red devices installed in shops and would display a list of groceries or other goods available there.

Leading article, page 13



Dr Sellen envisages widespread use of computer.

Top schools A-level league in The Times

THE first ranking of A-level results to compare state and independent schools will appear in *The Times* on Saturday. At least 250 leading schools will be named in a special feature analysing the performance of the two sectors.

This year's improved performance at A level has produced marked fluctuations in the positions of state schools at the top of the league tables. Independent schools are expected to show similar improvement. The feature will chart the leading independent schools' results over the past five years. The result will be the most comprehensive picture yet of their A-level performance, a yardstick against which others can be judged.

Holiday quiz

Fancy a challenge this bank holiday? Then order this Saturday's *Times* to be sure of your copy of the Jumbo crossword. You could win one of five £50 prizes.

Quorn Hunt men convicted in private firearm prosecution

By Craig Seton

TWO employees of the Quorn Hunt in Leicestershire were found guilty of offences yesterday following a private prosecution brought by the League Against Cruel Sports. The league presented evidence taken by an undercover activist, which showed a fox being shot.

Appearing before magistrates at Loughborough, Leicestershire, Alan Betts, 42, a part-time terrier handler of Whitwick, Leicestershire, denied possessing a .22 pistol without a firearm certificate last October. He was found guilty and fined £100. He denied an alternative charge of acquiring the pistol without a certificate and was acquitted.

Christopher Doherty, 31, a houseman who had a firearm certificate for the weapon, was found guilty of failing to comply with a condition that the gun be kept in a safe place when not in use. He was acquitted of failing to comply with another condition restricting its use to the slaughter of animals during his employment. He gave his address as the Quorn Hunt Kennels.

Tom Hart, for the league, said the prosecution followed a hunting expedition at

Shepherd when a fox went to ground in a wood and was dug out and shot dead by Betts, who did not hold a firearm certificate. Leicestershire police had investigated the incident, but the Crown Prosecution Service had decided to take no action.

Doherty told the court he had handed the gun to Betts because he could not get into a position to shoot the fox himself. Humane killing of a fox that had gone to ground was one of the rules of the Master of Foxhounds Association. Betts had held the gun for 25 seconds when it was unloaded and for five seconds when it was loaded before it was handed back. Betts, who is now unemployed, said he had not been aware he was doing anything wrong.

The incident had been filmed by Michael Huskisson, an animal welfare campaigner who infiltrated the hunt as a devotee of the sport. Mr Hart said the case was not about whether hunting was an acceptable sport, although the league wanted it to be banned by law. It was to decide whether there had been breaches of the Firearms Act of 1968.

Mr Huskisson, a photographic researcher who wrote down his address for the magistrat, showed the court parts of a video film taken when he accompanied hunt supporters to a fox hunt. A fox was being held by a terrier when it was pulled from its hole before being shot by Betts and thrown to the hounds.

Cross-examined by Bob Anderson, in the defence, he agreed he had been a press officer with the league and had used the names Mike Wilkins, Michael Wright and Mike Roberts and that he had also been involved in incidents including the desecration of John Peel grave and another involving the Royal College of Surgeons that had involved 60 masked men with sledgehammers.

After the hearing James Barrington, executive director of the league said it had been right to bring the prosecution. Other hunts across the country were probably involved in similar activities and this had been a shot across their bows. Brian Tod, for the Master of Foxhounds Association, said: "The league will use any stick however small to try to beat hunting."

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Journalists say BBC 'lacked commitment'

Rough Justice team defects to Channel 4

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THREE members of BBC Television's *Rough Justice* team, including its presenter, David Jessel, have defected to Channel 4, where they have been promised greater scope and freedom to conduct more hard-hitting investigations into miscarriages of justice. Channel 4 will announce today that it is to launch a rival series, provisionally titled *Trial And Error*.

Mr Jessel and Steve Haywood, the programme's producer, said that they decided to leave the BBC after it became apparent that it was lessening its commitment to *Rough Justice*. The series had been cut to one edition last year.

BBC senior management "failed to give us much support or share in any of our triumphs," Mr Jessel said. "Whenever we asked when the next edition of *Rough Justice* was going to be on the air, they would just shrug their shoulders. I couldn't stand being cut back when *Crimewatch UK* and other such programmes glorifying the police were expanding like a great fungus. We never heard a word of thanks from BBC management when the murder convictions of both the Darvell brothers and Jacqueline Fletcher were quashed. Nor could we ever really rely

on their support whenever we were attacked by those in high places."

Earlier this week, Channel 4 signed a two-year contract for three or more programmes each year from Just Television, an independent production company founded by Mr Jessel. Steve Phelps, producer of the *Rough Justice* programme that led to the release of the Darvell brothers last month, and Mr Haywood, who took over from Mr Phelps as producer in 1989. Justice, the pressure group that supplied the programme with many of its cases, also signed a contract with *Trial And Error*.

"The corporation is reported to be enraged by the defections. Will Wyatt, managing director of BBC Television, said claims that it was less committed to *Rough Justice* were "complete rubbish". Mr Wyatt, who rescued *Rough Justice* from cancellation in 1986 after a bitter attack by Lord Lane and a subsequent BBC internal enquiry, said: "We're not reducing our commitment to it at all. As long as it continues to produce the goods, the BBC will continue to broadcast it."

Paul Hamann, head of BBC documentary features, said that the programme would be extended to three editions a year, presented by

John Ware, a *Panorama* reporter. "The British justice system has all but collapsed and the BBC remains committed to uncovering miscarriages," he said.

Sources inside and outside the BBC said that the decision to increase the number of programmes was a reaction to *Trial And Error*. "The atmosphere is acrimonious to say the least," an insider said.

The row between the old team and BBC management began on June 30, when Channel 4 asked BBC executives whether they wanted to retain the *Rough Justice* title. Several weeks earlier, the BBC had offered Mr Haywood an extension of contract but, on July 1, several days after he opted to leave for Channel 4, the BBC began disciplinary proceedings against him.

Mr Phelps, who also worked with Mr Jessel last year as editor of *Hard News*, said: "We feel our deal with Channel 4 will preserve the integrity of our work. There will be no danger of it being mixed in with other genres. I find the apparent edging together of *Rough Justice* and *Inside Story* very worrying."

In the 10 years since *Rough Justice* began, eight convictions out of 17 cases taken up have been quashed or overturned after appeal.



Family trait: Edward Webb, left, is aiming to emulate the 1875 Channel crossing by Matthew Webb, right



Choppy sea foils family 'double'

BY NICHOLAS WATT

THE world may have advanced in the last century, but some things never change. A choppy sea yesterday forced the great-great-nephew of Captain Matthew Webb, the first man to swim the Channel, to abandon an attempt to emulate his kinsman's crossing.

Edward Webb, 20, a draughtsman from Nottingham, was just half a mile from Dover when he had to turn back. Captain Webb, who swam across in 1875, may not have been impressed. Not only was Mr Webb kitted out in the latest gear, he was also crossing in a more leisurely way, by parasailing, winched up to a parachute towed by a speedboat.

Captain Webb crossed from Dover to Calais in 21 hours on 24 and 25 August, 1875. Although the Channel is 23 miles wide at this, its narrowest point, he swam 39 miles as currents made him zig zag.

Janet Webb, Edward's wife, said yesterday: "My husband tried the crossing three times this week, but each time the weather forced him to abandon the crossing. The Meteorological Office has said that the weather should be better by the end of the first week of September. He won't have to cover 39 miles because nowadays we can plot currents much more effectively."

Rail grants aim to cut road congestion

BY MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

RAILWAYS will, for the first time, receive grants for projects to reduce road congestion. Roger Freeman, the public transport minister, said yesterday. At the same time, antiquated regulations governing road and rail investment projects will be overhauled to end the bias in favour of new road schemes.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Freeman said that the reforms, contained in the government's rail privatisation white paper, should help to strengthen the financial case for particular rail investment projects and make it easier for ministers to compare the costs and benefits of competing road and rail schemes.

Traditionally, investment in new road projects has been judged on the basis of a given road's contribution to reduced journey times and accidents. By contrast, investment in most new rail schemes has been required to generate an 8 per cent return before being approved by government. The different investment procedures have given rise to allegations that the government's investment rules are loaded in favour of roads.

Under the reformed investment procedure, to come into effect when British Rail is privatised in 1994, such bias would be largely eliminated, Mr Freeman said. Once BR's fixed and rolling assets are separated, the new infrastruc-

ture authority, Railtrack, will be responsible for investment in new track and signalling systems, while the government's long-term aim will be to transfer responsibility for investment in new rolling stock to the private sector.

Revised investment rules will enable Railtrack to bid for capital grants for those investment schemes that help to reduce road congestion and improve rail journey times. If, for example, Railtrack could show that the proposed £500 million scheme to modernise the west coast mainline between London and Glasgow could generate £100 million worth of reduced congestion on the M1, it would be able to bid for a £100 million capital grant, Mr Freeman said. The remaining £400 million would be borrowed from the Treasury and repaid in charges levied on private sector operators.

The net effect of the reforms would be to strengthen the case for certain rail investment schemes, especially during the annual public expenditure negotiations, Mr Freeman said. Stephen Joseph, director of the lobby group Transport 2000, said: "We welcome these reforms to the extent that they allow ministers to take account of the wider benefits of investment in the railways." He added that they fell far short of eliminating the bias in favour of road investment.

Schoolwear cost more in 1932

BY DAVID YOUNG

THE schoolboy creeping like a snail unwillingly to school next week will probably be carrying a Day-Glo sports bag instead of a leather satchel, will be tripping over the laces of trainers that cost the equivalent of a week's wages when his father went to school and will own a pocket calculator powerful enough to enable him to design a nuclear bomb.

A survey by Littlewoods Home Shopping, which started supplying school uniforms and equipment by mail order 60 years ago, has found that while schoolbags have changed, the real cost of school uniforms has fallen.

The average girl's gym suit cost 12s 11d (65p) in 1932, the equivalent of two days' pay, while today girls wear skirts and blouses that can be bought for just over the equivalent of two hours' pay for the average industrial worker. In 1932 girls wore Panama hats, navy bloomers, a tie and black stockings that would have cost a total of 4s 11d (25p).

The main adjustment that Littlewoods has had to make in the 1990s is a need for larger sizes. The average schoolboy is 11lb heavier than in 1932 and the average schoolgirl 9lb heavier and more than an inch taller.

Wheelchair brings A1 to a standstill

A disabled pensioner who took a wrong turning in his motorised wheelchair caused a four-mile traffic tailback on the busy A1 western bypass at Newcastle upon Tyne.

John Pearson, 74, from Gosforth, Cumbria, was on his way home in his battery-powered buggy. As he struggled along the slow lane at his top speed of five miles an hour other drivers had to queue to pass him in the fast lane.

After five miles a police patrol pulled him over. Last night he was too embarrassed to talk about Monday's drive.

Fire kills two

Lucy Godfrey, 5, of Great Chesterford, Essex, died of burns yesterday, a day after her sister Natalie, 3, was killed by the fire at their house.

Safe stolen

Raiders used a van to ram a bank's wall at Eton, Cleveland, attached steel hawsers to a cash dispensing machine and towed it away.

Girl 'stable'

Wendy Walker, 10, of Dundee, was said to be stable in a Newcastle upon Tyne hospital more than 24 hours after being given a new heart.

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Fifth successive rise in GCSE grades fuels fears over standards

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

GCSE examination results have improved for the fifth year in succession, with a majority of entries reaching the equivalent of O-level standard, according to figures announced today.

The improvement, less dramatic than last week's rise in A-level performance, has prompted education observers to question standards. Dr John Marks, a member of the School Examinations and Assessment Council, said: "We have to look very carefully to ensure standards are being maintained—otherwise qualifications will be devalued."

Although the proportion of examinees awarded the top grade increased by less than 1 per cent, the rise in A-C grades, the equivalent of O level, was 2.3 per cent. Combined with 66,000 more entries than in 1991, the result is certain to encourage staying-on rates in schools and further education colleges.

Eric Forth, the schools minister, said: "It is good to see so many pupils taking GCSE. The reward for their hard work is reflected in today's results. We can now look forward to seeing more students than ever continuing their education beyond the age of 16."

Of more than five million entries in England and Wales, one in eight was awarded an A grade and 51.3 per cent were given one of the top three grades. The figures suggest a 29 per cent improvement since the last year of O levels, 1987.

Like the A-level results, to-

day's figures show significant drops in the number of pupils taking mathematics and the individual sciences. Even biology, which escaped the decline at A level, had 35 per cent fewer entries.

Direct comparisons are impossible, however, because of the large number of schools switching to the single science examination. A rise of almost 50 per cent in these entries suggested that more pupils were taking a science examination of some sort.

Popular subjects included business studies, with 17 per cent more entries, and modern languages, with entries up by almost 5 per cent. Those in decline included economics, which followed a drop at A level with a fall of 18 per cent, computer studies (down by 15 per cent) and home economics (down by almost 10 per cent).

John Edmondson, secretary of the Joint Council for the GCSE, said that he was pleased by the improved performance of candidates against "well-established criteria." He added: "The beneficial effects of GCSE have once more been demonstrated through the good results being achieved at A level."

Teachers' unions spring to the defence of their members, anticipating criticism of standards. Eamonn O'Kane, the deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said: "It is clear that the results are a tribute to the hard work of thousands of teachers and their pupils, and they constitute a rebuttal of the charge

that standards are falling. I hope that we will not be treated to a chorus from the right-wing so-called experts that the improvements in grades are due to slacker marking and less rigorous standards. Such criticisms are unfair and insulting."

Peter Smith, general secretary of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses' Association, said: "The bad news is that to some extent, the results reflect the lack of confidence in employment prospects in manufacturing and high-tech industries. The good news, ironically, is that it looks as if children may be getting a broader type of education as they seek more flexible qualifications to help them in the depressed jobs market."

The rising pass rate will swell already rising rolls in school sixth forms and colleges. Although England and Wales still lag behind many comparable countries in post-16 participation in education, there has been consistent improvement in the past decade.

Entries in the main subject areas, known as national criteria subjects, are up by more than 4 per cent, reflecting a move back from fringe topics. The results register a sharp improvement in the core subjects of the national curriculum. There was a 9 per cent increase in grade A passes in English, an 8 per cent rise in mathematics and a 7 per cent rise in science.

Ann Taylor, the Labour education spokeswoman, said the results were "good news", but many school-leavers faced uncertainty over jobs.



Leader of the pack: the Rev John Smith astride a Harley Davidson yesterday and, below, the emblem displayed on his leather jacket

Biking vicar rides in to spread the gospel

THE Rev John Smith is no ordinary vicar. In Australia he is a celebrity, riding his Harley Davidson at the head of the God's Squad of converted "outlaw bikers", and counting churchmen, politicians and academics among his admirers (Louise Hidalgo writes).

His customary garb is black leathers, but his conversation is studied and erudite. "My role is to explode myths, such as that of the unthinking biker, to challenge false orthodoxies and make society remember the values it has

forgotten," he says. This week he is in Britain and tomorrow he addresses more than 25,000 young people expected to gather for the annual Greenbelt festival in Northamptonshire.

His message is likely to be controversial. The church, he says, missed the point of Martin Scorsese's film *The Last Temptation of Christ*. "It was an honest attempt, using the gospels, to redefine the link between the sensual and the spiritual reality. And it did what the church needs to do: it attempted to

portray a human Christ, one who struggles in a human way with temptation and with doubt."

For the past 20 years, Mr Smith, 50, has been running a ministry in inner-city Melbourne, which has focused on what he calls the fragmented sub-cultures of bikers, young offenders and drug addicts. His message is now beginning to reach Britain. Earlier this week he met members of the UK Christian Motorcyclists' Association, who said they were inspired by his work.



Children do maths in the cradle

BABIES can add and subtract at the age of five months. This facility could be innate and Karen Wynn, the American doctor who discovered it, believes it may "provide the foundations for the development of further arithmetical knowledge" (Alison Roberts writes).

The findings of Dr Wynn at the University of Arizona, published in today's *Nature*, answer a long-running debate on whether young children discriminate between small numbers of items by consciously counting or by purely perceptual, non-numerical means.

The experiments were based on the knowledge that infants look longer at unexpected events than expected ones. A hand putting either one or two objects on to a display area was shown to 32 babies with a mean age of five months and a day. Then a screen was raised and they were shown a hand either adding one object to the one behind the screen (1+1), or taking one away (2-1).

When the screen was lowered the babies could see that in half the cases the number of objects was as it should have been, but in the other half it was not. The babies looked at the incorrect displays for significantly longer than at the correct versions, proving that they understand that addition or subtraction changes a number of items.

Hopes rise of cure for baby anaemia

By ALISON ROBERTS

DOCTORS may be able to cure the severe anaemia suffered by premature babies and prevent the need for life-threatening blood transfusions, a blood specialists' conference has been told.

A clinical trial at St Thomas's Hospital in London showed that injecting pre-term babies with the natural hormone erythropoietin (Epo) stimulates red blood cell production in bone marrow and prevents the anaemia that affects almost all premature infants. About 5 per cent of all babies are born before the thirty-seventh week of pregnancy and classified as premature. At the moment they are

given blood transfusions that may be infected with viruses that are harmless to adults, but can be fatal in premature babies who have no resistance to disease.

Anthony Emmerson, a neonatologist at St Thomas's, said: "With transfusions there is an increased chance of getting overwhelming problems from infection, particularly with cytomegalovirus, which is a common feature of Aids." CMV causes liver enlargement, jaundice and blood disorders in premature infants and is often fatal.

Dr Emmerson's trial showed that only 48 per cent of the premature babies who

were given Epo required blood transfusions, against almost 90 per cent of those who were given a placebo. He said: "This has the potential to help the majority of pre-term babies."

Anaemic babies suffer from heart and breathing disorders and the more premature the baby, the worse the problem tends to be. Since Brent Greenwood, the baby born 17 weeks prematurely, left Leeds General Infirmary this week, other parents have spoken about their pre-term babies. Michael Cloughton's son Thomas was also born 17 weeks too early in Ashford, Kent, and weighed 21 oz. He is now a healthy two-

year-old. Although Caitlin MacLaren was born only 12 weeks prematurely, she also weighed 21 oz. Dr Neil Martin, one of the doctors who looked after her in the neonatal ward of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital in Canterbury, said that he regularly saw premature babies of only 28 weeks gestation.

"There is an 80 to 90 per cent chance that these babies will survive. Survivors at 23 and 24 weeks are rare," he said. There was a desperate shortage of neo-natal intensive care cots throughout the country. His hospital has raised £620,000 to upgrade its neonatal ward.

Subject	Number of Candidates	Provisional Results						
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Music	32712	20.9	21.9	21.4	14.0	10.2	7.2	3.6
Religious Studies	30546	14.2	18.0	20.7	13.1	12.9	10.0	6.3
Biology	38053	12.5	17.5	21.2	15.5	13.2	11.1	5.9
Chemistry	38040	13.3	15.9	21.4	17.5	13.9	10.3	6.6
Physics	32228	15.4	20.1	21.9	15.7	11.9	8.3	4.9
Science	32228	15.4	20.1	21.9	15.7	11.9	8.3	4.9
Social Science	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
English	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Mathematics	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Art & Design	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Business Studies	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Latin	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Greek	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Classical Civilisation	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Computing Studies	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
CIT	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7
Economics	381743	7.0	10.5	19.5	19.5	17.6	13.3	7.7

Furrow of poverty traps dale farmers

COVERDALE is a remote and wildy beautiful part of the Yorkshire Dales, visited each summer by scores of tourists seeking the storybook village of James Herriot. It is also renowned for a cheese as highly regarded by cognoscenti as its more famous Wensleydale cousin.

But when the visitors have gone, a community remains and like so many in the region it is hanging on by its fingertips, fighting the recession.

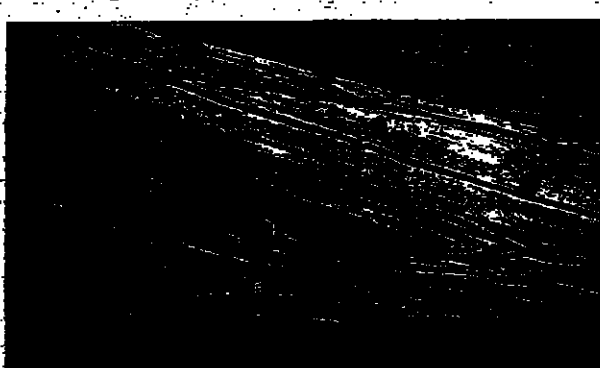
Yesterday, North Yorkshire County Council launched its bid for up to £10 million in European grants to ensure that the people of the dales and the neighbouring moors can continue to work and live without fear for their future.

The money is needed to save a local economy under threat from the world recession and social change that could drive people off the land. The county's submission to Brussels has taken 18 months to research and has uncovered a story of deprivation and despair.

Researchers found an above-average suicide rate among the farmers whose cows and Swaledale sheep browse the tough upland pastures. They also found an average wage of just £100 a week.

The desire of city-dwellers for weekend homes has forced the prices of pretty

Battered by the recession, a deprived community is pinning its hopes on EC grants, writes Paul Wilkinson



Upland struggle: life on the dales is growing harder

stone cottages well above the reach of local people. Young people have been driven off the land by poor wages, few jobs and fewer facilities.

Now there is a decline in the number of those who keep the tourist honeytrap going. The research even uncovered a trade in traditional dry-stone walls, sold for cash to enhance picture-postcard developments elsewhere.

Geoff Lambert has not yet planned those depots, but his family's experiences are typical. He has farmed around the tiny Coverdale hamlet of Bradley for almost a quarter of a century, first as

a tenant, latterly as owner of 1,300 acres of rough uplands.

At 53 he has no plans to forsake the hills, but his oldest son, toyed with the idea when he could not find a house for his bride, and another son has to live in a council house 22 miles away in Richmond because he cannot afford a home in the dale although he works there.

Mr Lambert's youngest son is moving away to study electronic engineering.

"Now my eldest boy has married I have to pay him a proper wage, but before that he accepted meagre money because he knew it was a way of keeping the farm run-

ning," Mr Lambert said. "I wanted to build them a house, but the national park wouldn't let us. I finally had to convert a barn. Houses in the village are going for astronomical prices. One sold in six weeks recently with an asking price of £174,000. There's no way a young man can buy something like that."

"When I started off I was doing as well as anybody else, but now I reckon we are all on a below-average wage." Prices for his lambs have halved in the past year with the ending of guaranteed minimum subsidies and he calculates his gross income has dropped 40 per cent in less than two years.

North Yorkshire's effort to change the area's economic climate comes in the form of a bid for what Brussels bureaucrats call Objective 5b status.

In the UK at present only the Highlands and Islands and parts of Dumfries and Galloway in Scotland, sections of rural Wales and parts of Cornwall and Devon have achieved such status.

Objective 5b status would unlock the European Structural Fund intended to help diversify agricultural economies where there is low socio-economic development and low income from the land. Cash is also available to support new tourism and business ventures.

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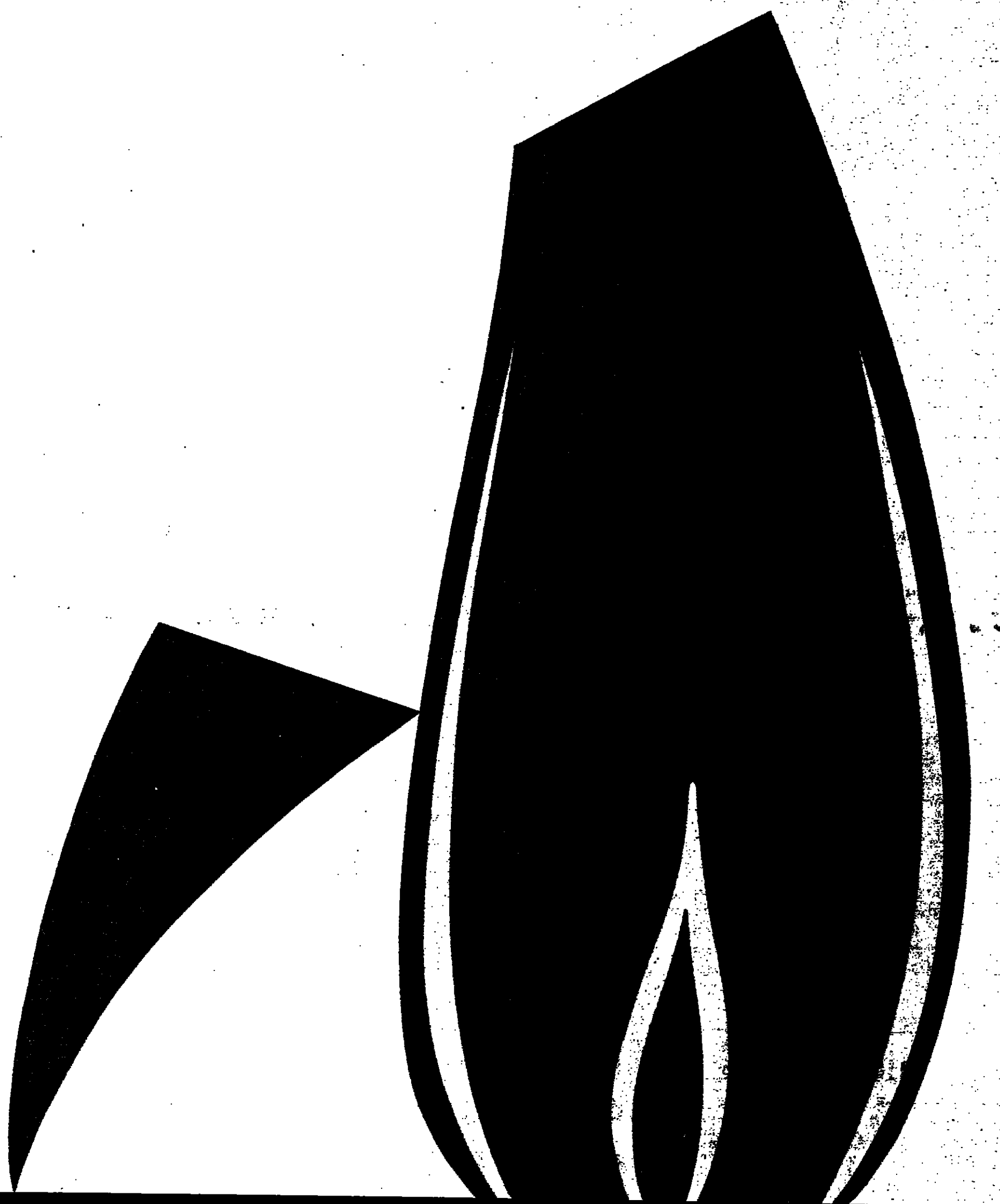
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Arafat attacks Israel and US

Rabin 'using Likud policy of oppression'

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

THE Middle East peace talks in Washington appeared destined for their first big hurdle yesterday after Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, launched a fierce attack against Israel and America.

Although this week's talks between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators appeared to have opened on a positive note, Mr Arafat suggested yesterday, in a speech before the United Nations in Geneva, that Israel's offer to allow Palestinians to hold elections for an administrative council in the occupied territories fell far short of his minimum demands. Although Mr Arafat and his Tunis-based organisation are excluded

from the current peace talks, it is widely acknowledged that the Palestinian delegation at the negotiating table takes all its instructions from the veteran guerrilla leader.

Mr Arafat began his address by launching a broadside against Washington for its policies in favour of Israel and went on to accuse the new left-wing Israeli government, led by Yitzhak Rabin, of practising the same policies of "oppression, repression and terrorism" as his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir, of Likud.

"We consider there to be a flagrant bias in favour of the Israeli position and a cause or a reason to abort the peace process," Mr Arafat said, referring to President Bush's decision earlier this month to grant Israel \$10 billion (£5 billion) in loan guarantees, even though the new Israeli government did not completely halt the construction of Jewish settlement housing in the occupied territories.

Although Mr Arafat conceded that the Israeli election results in June did represent a defeat for the policy of "war and procrastination" of the former Likud government, he nevertheless gave a warning against trusting Mr Rabin. "We have seen how Mr Rabin's statements since he took office contradict his actions on the ground. He gives the world sugar-coated words and pursues an iron-fisted policy on the ground," he said.

Possibly his most important declaration was the outright rejection of Israel's offer on Tuesday in Washington to allow the 1.8 million Palestinians in the occupied territories to hold elections next year for an administrative council, which would take over the running of "15 spheres of authority" from the Israeli military administration in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Although not all the details of the plan were revealed, the Israelis proposed that polling for the new authority could take place as early as next spring, when Israel would begin the transfer of authority of some sectors of government, such as agriculture and education, to the Palestinians. However, the Palestinians are insisting that they want to elect a far larger and more powerful legislative assembly, which could become the basis of a parliament for a future Palestinian state.

The whole world realises that there can be no peace or stability on the corpses of the Palestinian people," Mr Arafat said. He insisted that Palestinians wanted total self-determination and not "administrative elections as it [Israel] has proposed, under the guns and cannons of its tanks".



Common cause: Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, hugs Oliver Tambo, former president of the African National Congress, at a UN conference in Geneva on the Palestinians' future

Bomb kills nine at Algiers airport

FROM REUTERS IN ALGIERIA

A POWERFUL bomb ripped through a crowded Algiers airport terminal yesterday, killing nine people, wounding more than 100 and devastating the building. It was the worst attack since a wave of bombings and shootings started in February.

The official news agency APS quoted Belaid Abdesselam, the prime minister, as saying half the wounded had been able to leave hospital after treatment.

Nobody claimed responsibility for the explosion, which wrecked much of the international terminal building at Houari Boumedienne airport, about 12 miles from the capital. Earlier attacks in which more than 100 security force members have been killed have been blamed on Muslim extremists.

Witnesses said the terminal was packed with people who fled as the false ceiling came crashing down, hitting dead and wounded lying on the floor. Abandoned luggage lay covered with debris from the blast. The explosion demolished offices and shattered thick, 30-ft high windows running the length of the terminal, leaving ankle-deep

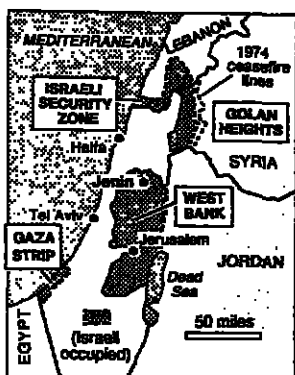
shards of glass. François Colamere, a 53-year-old French businessman working for the German firm Krauss Maffel, said: "Hundreds of people were inside. It was a powerful, professional bomb, not home-made."

Another French businessman, Armand Ajjoun, 45, who was returning to Nice from a business trip, said: "It was incredible. But everyone helped the wounded, who were just lying everywhere. It was impossible to say whether they were dead or alive."

Another bomb, said to be a crude device, exploded inside the Air France office in central Algiers about the same time, witnesses and Algiers radio said. The radio said a warning telephone call had been made three minutes before the explosion, and the building was evacuated. Nobody was hurt.

An Algiers resident said another bomb was defused in the central Place Audin. APS said the Swissair office was also evacuated after a bomb alert.

Muhammad Hardi, the interior minister, speaking on Algiers Radio, promised "draconian measures" to prevent further attacks.



Four die in West Bank gun battle

BY RICHARD BEESTON

JENIN, the Palestinian market town, yesterday reverberated to the sound of automatic gunfire as Palestinian guerrillas and Israeli security forces fought a seven-hour battle that left two Palestinians, an Israeli police officer and an Arab housewife dead. Two infants and a second woman were seriously injured.

The incident, one of the bloodiest gun battles in the occupied West Bank, occurred in the early hours of the morning when an Israeli undercover unit of the paramilitary border police stormed a house in the eastern part of the town. As the leader of the unit, Captain Eliyahu Avraham, entered the building he was killed by automatic rifle fire forcing his fellow officers to retreat.

After a seven-hour siege, marked by sporadic exchanges of fire, an Israeli police anti-terrorist unit overran the building and killed two Palestinians, both members of the Black Panther group loyal to the mainstream Fatah wing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Shanghai wrestles with candid Pinter

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

CHINA is staging its first adult-only play with a production of Harold Pinter's *The Lover*, daringly presenting marital infidelity on stage. The play was awarded the Chinese theatre's first X-rating as it focuses on the sex life of a husband and wife, complete with a scantily clad female lead and figures glimpsed in intimate embraces behind a glass screen.

The Lover is being staged in Shanghai, which in the days before the Communist takeover earned a reputation, which it is fast regaining, for loose living. To a viewing public which has had nothing to watch for the past three years but films glorifying the late Chairman Mao, the production is a breakthrough. It attracted a sell-out audience on its first night, mostly university students and people from the art world.

The *Liberation Daily* newspaper reported that several members of the audience had emerged from the theatre rather perplexed. Expecting titillation, the audience was also served up the themes of betrayal, fertility and alienation, all of which is about as daring for China as sex. Written in 1963, *The Lover* tells the story of a husband and wife who pretend that

they are cheating on one another. But the wife's mystery lover turns out to be her husband in disguise.

The Lover was staged just once before in China, at Peking's Central Academy of Drama, but was judged so corrupting that no members of the public were allowed to watch it. After the closed-door performance, the *China Daily* commented that such plays "would be sure to spark some debate if they were ever staged in China".

Experimentation on the cultural scene in the late 1980s was brought to a shuddering halt after the army opened fire on unarmed demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in June 1989, provoking a headline backlash. But after a three-year relapse into the stifling confines of Maoist art, complete with Cultural Revolution operas, a more liberal trend is emerging.

Early this year, Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader, called for capitalist-style economic reforms. Mr Deng, 88, did not appear interested in any other sort of loosening up, but it has followed. Recently, Li Ruiquan, a reform-minded member of the politburo standing committee, stated that not all art had to have a Communist message, an outrageous remark for any loyal Maoist.

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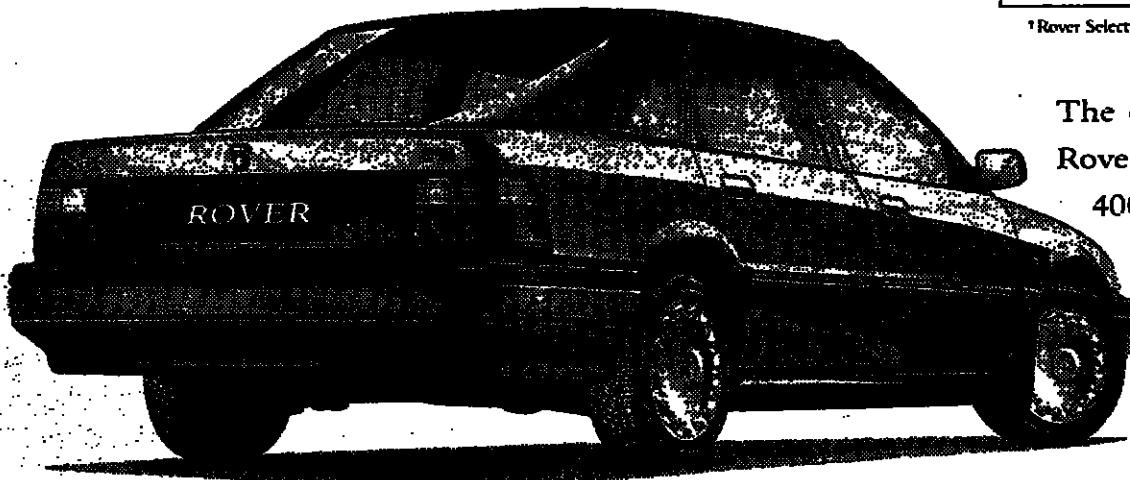
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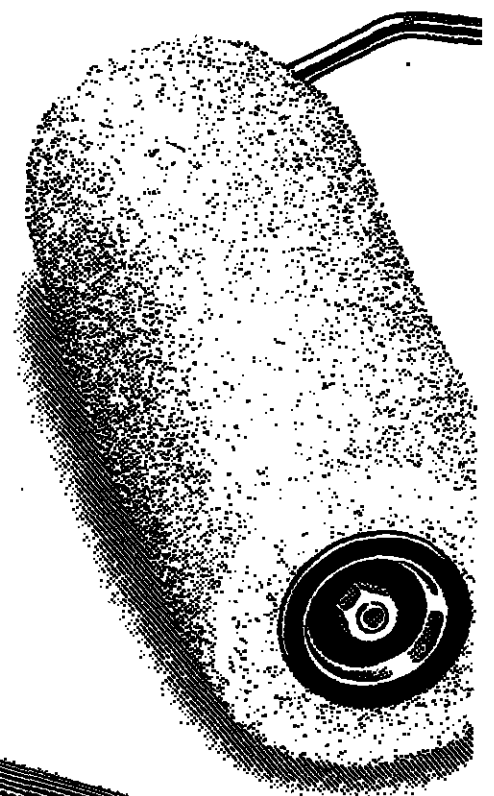
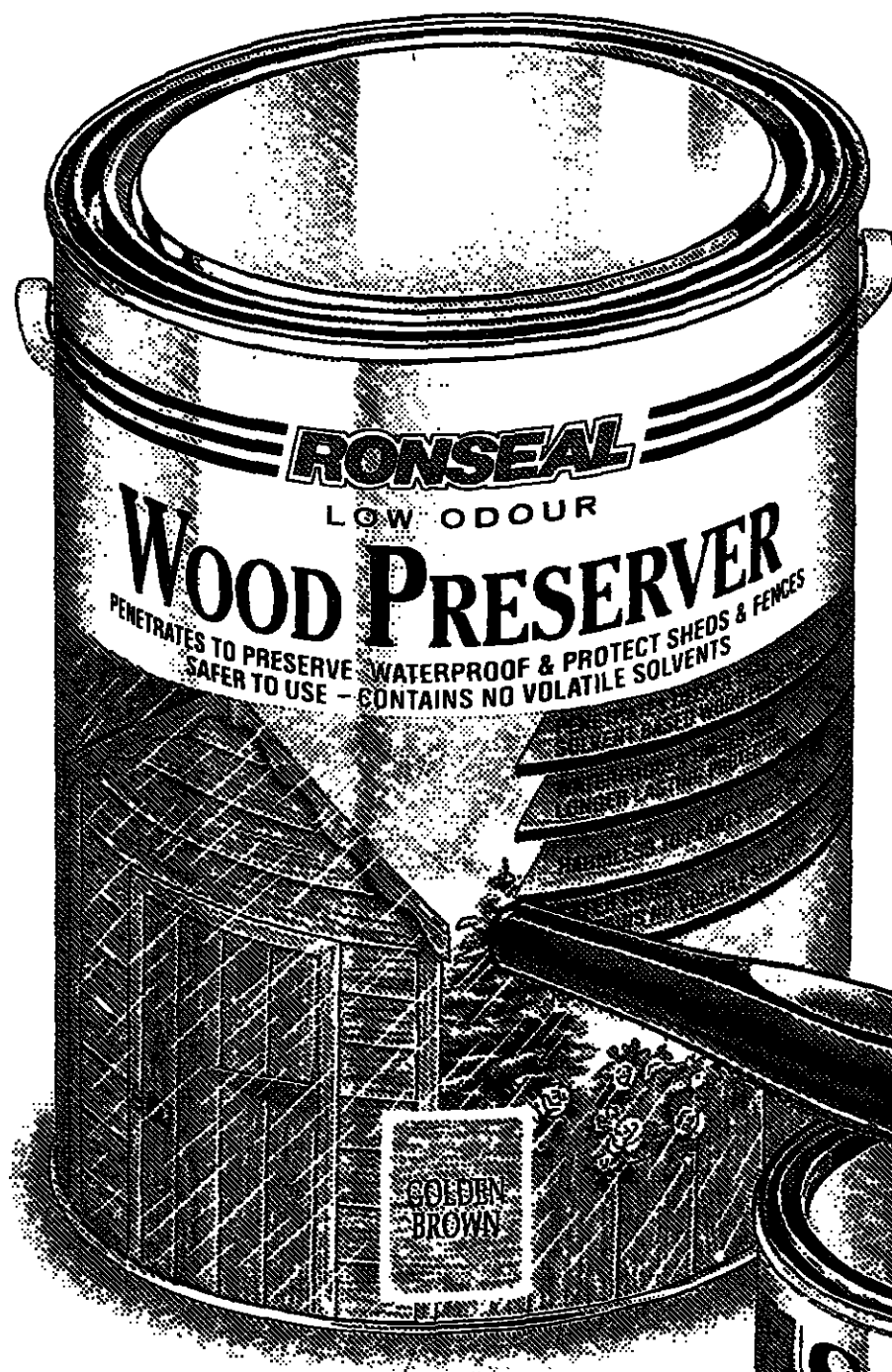
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Why pay pots for paint?

Belgrade faces tougher sanctions

Major tells Serbia to stop grabbing land

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, AND TIM JUDAH

THE London Conference opened yesterday with a strong warning to Serbia that it faced international isolation and much tougher sanctions unless it agreed to renounce all acquisition of land by force, stop the fighting in Bosnia and halt the expulsion of Bosnian Muslims.

World leaders also insisted that they would never accept the forcible division of Bosnia or the carving up of an internationally recognised country. They called on the leaders in Belgrade immediately to fulfil their promises to uphold internationally agreed principles.

Opening the conference, John Major told representatives of at least 40 countries, organisations and the former Yugoslav republics that world opinion would not forgive anyone who impeded efforts to try to stop the war. He said: "The people whom we represent have been appalled by the destruction, the killing, the maiming, the sheer cruelty which has disfigured Yugoslavia."

Mr Major said that the conference had four main tasks. The first was to help the hundreds of thousands of refugees as winter approached. "This is not a natural disaster, it is a man-made disaster. It needs a man-made solution." Help could not be given by force, but it must be done in safety.

LONDON CONFERENCE

Second, the conference must ensure respect for human rights. "At present that is not happening. Civilians are detained against their will and subjected to ill treatment, especially in Bosnia. Those detention camps must be shut. But while they exist, humanitarian agencies should have immediate, unimpeded and constant access to them."

The third task was to mobilise international pressure behind the fundamental principles of a settlement. Frontiers could not be altered by force. "The international community will not accept that Bosnia can be partitioned by conquest." Minorities were also entitled to full protection.

Mr Major said the fourth task was to increase pressure on governments or factions that did not abide by these principles. Serbia and Montenegro had to ask themselves whether they wanted to be considered part of Europe and the world community. If so, they would be helped. If not, "the pressure will inexorably increase: condemnation, isolation... no trade, no aid, no international recognition or role, economic, cultural, political and diplomatic isolation."

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general and co-chairman of the

conference, agreed that frontiers could not be changed by force, only through legal and peaceful channels. He gave a warning, however, that the UN was now being asked to take on a role far beyond its mandate in former Yugoslavia. "The expectations of the international community... continues to exceed the resources and capacity of the United Nations Protection Force. I wish to insist that the UN mission, with its present mandate, cannot by itself bring this crisis to an end or a durable political solution."

He complained that the European Community was not sticking to the agreed division of labour. He said Europe had vast moral, economic and military resources. It should co-operate fully with the UN Security Council.

He gave a warning that if all new states broke down according to ethnic, religious or linguistic groups, there would be no limit to fragmentation. Systematic killing of minorities could not be tolerated. He said declarations alone would not bring international peace.

Speaking for the EC presidency, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said suffering in former Yugoslavia was not an act of God, but the result of blatant aggression. He blamed especially the Serbian leadership.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, went further and spoke about Belgrade as the "main source of evil. The Serbs were engaged in a ruthless war to create an ethnically cleansed greater Serbia. What is happening here is genocide and this we condemn before the world community. The community of nations will pursue all crimes no matter who has committed them. Let no one believe that these atrocities will be forgotten."

The conference got off to a less than promising start when Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, walked out, protesting at his observer status. He said that he had come to talk, "not sit in a side room." He said he was "the only party at the talks, we control the territories." One British official described the walkout as "pure theatre", and predicted: "He'll be back for lunch. He can talk to whoever he wants... but he's got to do it in the corridors." Mr Karadzic was duly back at lunchtime.

● **Borkum:** President Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, said after a meeting on the German North Sea island of Borkum yesterday that the international community should provide winter aid for refugees in former Yugoslavia and that the EC in particular should offer help. (Reuter)

Troops promise, page 1
Diary, page 12
Martin Ivens, page 12
Leading article, page 13



Tactical withdrawal: Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, walking out of the conference in London yesterday in protest at his observer status. The gesture was described by one British official as "pure theatre" and Mr Karadzic later returned to the conference

Silajdzic presses for 'no-fly zone'

By TIM JUDAH

BOSNIAN DIPLOMACY

IN A clear attempt to shame the West into taking tougher action on Bosnia, the republic's foreign minister is to demand that an Iraqi-style "no-fly zone" be enforced over his country. Haris Silajdzic said the request would be made to the American government but he lamented that "whatever the Americans try to do the English and French are in the way."

Since the Bosnian war began, Mr Silajdzic has toured the globe drumming up support for his beleaguered country. Mr Silajdzic predicted that, unless the "aggressors" were driven out soon, the Bosnian war would be a drawn-out conflict.

Bosnian Serbs are using warplanes left behind when the Yugoslav armed forces pulled out of the republic. They are based in the northern city of Banja Luka, where they are protected by missile batteries. Bosnia has frequently claimed that jets flying from bases in Serbia are also used, an allegation vigorously denied in Belgrade.

Mr Silajdzic said that after all that had happened in Bosnia, the UN and the European Community were "still talking about steering committees", a reference to the six working groups planned to follow the two days of talks at the conference. "I couldn't believe it when I heard [Boutros] Boutros Ghali [the UN secretary-general] talking about them... it was as though he'd made some sort of discovery."

Mr Silajdzic said the key

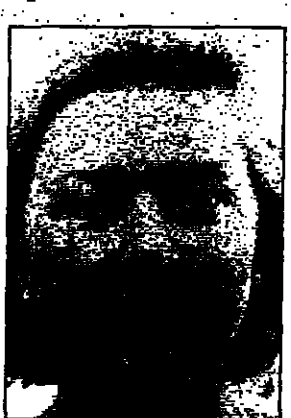
Adie takes over Bell coverage

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

KATE Adie, the BBC's chief news correspondent, was sent to Bosnia yesterday to replace Martin Bell, the veteran war correspondent wounded in a Sarajevo mortar attack on Tuesday.

Bell, 53, yesterday underwent further surgery at the private Princess Grace Hospital in London after X-rays located another small fragment of shrapnel in his body. He was reported to be in good spirits.

Adie, a veteran of numerous foreign conflicts, was in Sarajevo last night. She is joined by a new crew — cameraman John Daley and sound recordist Paul Francis. The BBC said yesterday it had thought "long and hard" about sending in a replacement for Bell.



Adie: backed up by a new BBC crew

Jewel of the capital destroyed by fire

FROM KURT SCHORK IN SARAJEVO

SARAJEVO'S much-loved old town hall, a graceful Moorish building used as the Bosnian national library, was blazing out of control yesterday after the capital came under bombardment overnight. Fire-fighters struggling with low water pressure managed to extinguish the flames several times during the night but the building, in the heart of the city, kept coming under renewed attack.

"I loved this building very much... Sarajevo will not be the same without the library," said one onlooker. "Even on fire the building is very beautiful."

By mid-morning the north and central sections of the ornate four-storey building were engulfed by flames. Windows were exploding out into the narrow streets and the building's stone north wall was cracking and collapsing under the heat. A human conveyor belt of volunteers trying to save as many historical documents and books as possible stretched from inside the burning building to lorries queued outside.

The slender Moorish columns of the library's main reading room exploded from the intense heat and portions of the room came crashing through the ceiling. Five firemen, protected only by yellow hard hats, narrowly escaped death when a staircase collapsed beneath their feet under the weight of falling debris. They tumbled down the stairwell but were apparently unhurt.

The old town hall, built

during the days of the Austro-Hungarian empire, opened in 1896, was a source of civic pride. Its mix of imposing masonry and architectural frivolity captured the city's pre-war personality. The destruction of the building, likely to have a heavy psychological impact on the city residents, who have been living under siege by Serbian forces for several months.

The fire started shortly after 10pm on Tuesday and kept igniting and growing. Efforts to extinguish the flames were hampered by low water pressure. The main and pump-out system have been damaged in months of fierce urban warfare. "We have been fighting this fire all night, but we do have much water pressure," said fire commander Keni Slinic. "There have been many falling here for hours."

A German military transport plane was hit by gunfire while taking off from Sarajevo airport on Tuesday, but reached Zagreb without problems. A German defence spokesman said: "The crew of the turboprop aircraft did not notice they were being fired while leaving the capital, but bullet hole was found in a plane after it landed in a Croatian capital, he said. It was the first time a German military transport plane has been shot at since Bonn joined the airlift to the city six weeks ago, he said. (Reuter)

LONDON CONFERENCE: THE PARTICIPANTS



CHAIRMAN
John Major
Boutros Boutros Ghali



● **Yugoslav delegations with observer status:** Bosnian Serbs (Radovan Karadzic), Bosnian Croats, Kosovo Albanians, Vojvodina Hungarians

● **Other delegations:** Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Denmark, EC (Jacques Delors), France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Organization of Islamic Conference, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, International Red Cross (IRC)

Andrew baffles then batters Louisiana

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

IN ITS pursuit of the dubious distinction of being the costliest natural disaster in American history, Hurricane Andrew ripped into the southern state of Louisiana early yesterday, bringing more howling winds and driving rain.

Andrew came in from the Gulf of Mexico under the cover of darkness, just as it had done in Florida on Sunday. And again, it kept forecasters guessing until the last moment. Instead of hitting New Orleans, Andrew veered off to the west and struck unsuspecting areas in the marshlands of Cajun country.

As Andrew approached the coast, forecasters tried to keep track of the hurricane eye as it



turned around and headed back east.

President Bush yesterday cleared his schedule again to visit the new disaster zone. "The destruction of this storm goes beyond anything we have known in recent years," he said. He announced the setting up of a task force to co-ordinate relief. He said \$10

million (£5.2 million) had been set aside to create 5,000 clean-up jobs for Florida residents unemployed as a result of Andrew. "This disaster threatens to overwhelm the resources of all public and private resources," he said.

Worst hit in Louisiana was Morgan City with 12,000 residents. Witnesses described how sheets of metal sailed down the streets at the height of the hurricane like razor blades. Homes were damaged by falling trees but most buildings survived intact.

Andrew's journey from Africa has finally taken a toll of its strength. Winds began to die down yesterday to 115 mph, compared with the 160 mph gusts that hit south Florida. But Andrew made up for what it lacked in power with heavy rain and officials were concerned over the new risk of flash floods. South Louisiana is a low-lying marshland.

Andrew also spawned a series of tornadoes, one of which injured between 25 and 30 people and destroyed 40 to 50 homes.

Clean-up work continued in Miami, where 50,000 people remain homeless. Police say at least 16 people have been killed and thousands injured, and damage in south Florida is estimated to be as high as \$20 billion. Nearly one million people in south Florida remain without electricity.

In Miami Beach, residents who have no running water or electricity bathed in the ocean. Some carried buckets of sea water home to flush toilets.

High wind, page 12
Insurance cost, page 17

Brazilian president loses first battle against impeachment

By MAC MARGOLIS IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Collor de Mello of Brazil lost the first battle in his fight to stay in power yesterday when a congressional panel voted in the capital, Brasilia, to uphold a report condemning him for condoning corruption in government.

Protesters from a number of cities, their faces smudged in black paint, shouting for impeachment, flocked to the house of Congress to hold a vigil as the panel of legislators announced its decision to endorse the investigation into what has been called Brazil's worst corruption scandal.

During a tense session, those loyal to the president took the microphone to denounce the "investigative fury" that linked Senhor Collor to the scandal. But a number of government allies broke ranks with the president and voted in favour of the report, clearing the way for a petition of impeachment that citizens' groups are expected to present to Congress soon.

The report, released on Monday, concluded that Senhor Collor not only knew of, but received illicit gifts and money from a "squad" of influence peddlers and favour-seekers, led by his former campaign manager, Senhor Paulo Cesar Farias. The decision of the congressional panel bodes ill for Senhor Collor, who must rally at least a third of Congress, or 168 of 503 legislators in the lower house, to block impeachment. If he

fails, Senhor Collor will be suspended from office for up to 180 days and face an impeachment trial in the Senate. It is possible that he will also face criminal charges.

Yesterday, outside the halls of congress, another wave of protests grew, fuelling the drive for impeachment. For the fourth successive day, demonstrators took to the streets in dozens of cities to demand an end to the Collor government.

On the eve of the vote, anger gave way to festivity as some 30,000 protesters paraded to samba tunes through central Rio, while those sympathetic to the president covered the sidewalks with shredded paper thrown down from the windows of office buildings. Elementary school students in training shoes and backpacks mingled with businessmen with briefcases. A military policeman smiled as a fellow officer pasted a "Down with Collor" sticker on his forehead.

"What makes us a third world country is not economic underdevelopment, but moral decadence," Senhor Paulo Melo, a congressman for Rio state shouted over the din of the crowd. "But people are sick and tired of stealing and corruption."

At the same time, newspaper reports allege that President Collor has consulted numerous clairvoyants in the hope of finding a way of remaining in office. Thomas Gordon, a parapsychologist, is apparently the most recent of a

number of experts on the supernatural said to be advising the beleaguered head of state. At the end of a four-hour session, Senhor Gordon, well known among Brazilian starlets, is alleged to have urged the president to "mediate every day between 6pm and 6.30 pm", local press reports said.

Candles the colour of the green and yellow Brazilian flag apparently burn around the clock in the gardens and around the windows of the master bedroom at the president's private residence. Those candles burned the night before the second round of the November 1989 presidential elections, which Senhor Collor won with 35 million votes against 31 million for his rival.

Vera Lucia Moreira Alves, alleged to be Senhor Collor's favourite medium, said in a televised interview that the president would leave office only 40 days before the end of his elected term, due on January 1, 1995. The interviewer, baffled, asked whether the congressional panel would have any impact. "None," the medium replied, unflinching.

Senhor Collor, a practicing Roman Catholic, has attended church less frequently this year, but his designated priest, Father Joao Luiz Mancine, says the president's faith is "undeniable" and dismisses his reported meetings with sorcerers and gurus as inventions of the press.

Lebanese ministers resign

Beirut: Faris Boueiz, the Lebanese foreign minister, and George Saadeh, leader of the Christian Phalange party, announced yesterday their resignations in protest at the government's decision to go ahead with elections (A. Jaber writes).

Karim Pakradouni, a Phalange secretary-general, said that the resignation of Chawki Fakhouri, the transport minister, would follow.

Security sought

Moscow: Russia appealed all factions in Afghanistan guarantee the safety of plans to evacuate foreigners from Kabul, where 1,000 people have been killed in two weeks including two Russian embassy employees. (Reuter)

Arrests upheld

Delhi: India's Supreme Court has upheld the detention of two Britons, David Ward, 22, and Steve Hillman, 22, who were arrested in Nagaland on subversion charges. The men belong to the Naga Vig group. (Reuter)

Rights backed

Bangkok: Burma's military junta, accused by human rights groups of brutality against minorities, has signed the Geneva Convention to the surprise of representatives of the Karen minority. (Reuter)

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Mitterrand's game of divide-and-rule comes unstuck

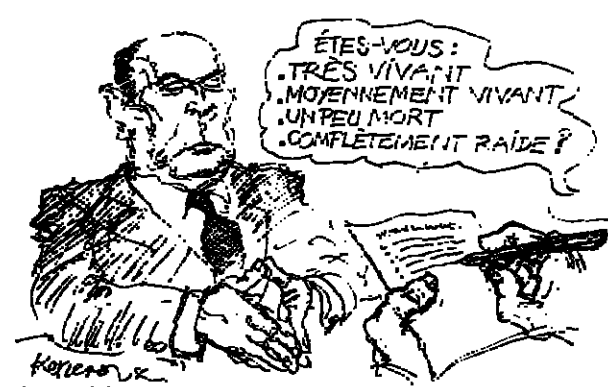
THE road from Maastricht has been strewn with unpleasant surprises for Europe's statesmen who cling to the postwar recipes for uniting the continent. To see the Danes reject the treaty was a severe blow for the architects of political and monetary union. Worse may be to come. France, the self-appointed spiritual leader of the European Community, might turn the treaty down.

France's vote to ratify the Maastricht treaty, once seen as a near-certain 'yes', could go the other way, writes George Brock from Paris

that Paris cannot be sure of ratification. But President Mitterrand and his ministers now find themselves in a hard fight with opponents whom they were dismissing as eccentric backwoodsmen before the annual holiday exodus. The rainbow coalition recommending a "no" vote, which ranges from the battered Communist party to Jean-Marie Le Pen's extreme-right National Front, has won the initiative and momentum by realising that undecided voters mistrust the political establishment.

Just as in Denmark, voters suspect that politicians are not levelling with them. The French are unhappy. Jean d'Ormesson, the grand old man of conservative pundits, wrote yesterday: "They don't like their government, politics disappoint them, they are revolted by endless scandals, the economy is in a mess, the future worries them."

Mitterrand called the referendum to split his centre-right opponents in the hope of restoring the Socialist's fortunes before the general election next spring. The strategy has blown up in his face. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former president, who is for the treaty, said when asked whether Mitterrand was wise to agree to a televised debate next week that the president was so unpopular that his every intervention would boost the "no" vote. Mitterrand's ministers are defending a treaty packed with compromises which truly satisfied no leader at Maastricht. France claimed two negotiating triumphs. The treaty lays down a binding timetable for a single currency in Europe, offering the prospect that the franc's subservience to the mark might be ended. But pro-treaty ministers now say that if the text had to be renegotiated, Germany might well refuse to schedule the abolition of the mark. With the European exchange rate mechanism close to breaking and Germans' resistance to losing their stable currency increasing, French people suspect that even if ratified, treaty commitments could be evaded.



Le Canard Enchaîné asks if Mitterrand is very or pretty much alive, a little dead or completely stiff

polls showed that almost half the electorate does not believe that Maastricht would make much difference to the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Added to that, the government is in disarray over the use of force in Bosnia. Its chosen combination of tough talk and cautious military deployment is under relentless attack for its timidity. The "yes" campaign suffers from a deeper problem shared by all governments trying to ratify the treaty: no one can agree on its main justification. The Socialist party emphasised the Community's contribution to post-war peace with a poster featuring a caricature of Hitler obliterated by a large

less attack for its timidity. The "yes" campaign suffers from a deeper problem shared by all governments trying to ratify the treaty: no one can agree on its main justification. The Socialist party emphasised the Community's contribution to post-war peace with a poster featuring a caricature of Hitler obliterated by a large

X. At the same time it wants to capitalise on anti-Americanism. "Give Europe weight" says another poster featuring a domineering Uncle Sam and a Japanese sumo wrestler. Mitterrand's nemesis is Philippe Seguin, a Gaullist former minister. Dismissed as a dinosaur in the early weeks of the campaign, he is now the man due to debate the treaty with Mitterrand on television. He plugs a simple set of themes: no treaty can enforce the co-ordination of states determined to act individually; the power of the Brussels technocracy will be boosted, and there should be a second shot at writing a better treaty. Some Socialists are painting him as an ambitious schemer trying to displace Jacques Chirac as leader of the Rassemblement pour la République (RPR), but M Seguin's concentration on the issues make the charge unlikely to stick. The "yes" campaign's slide

in the polls does not mean that the treaty will be defeated. The French state can call on great reserves of deference and loyalty when a president needs them. Ministers and treaty supporters ranging from Yves St Laurent to Plácido Domingo have more than three weeks to win over voters with the spectre of collapse and disillusion in the EC if they kill off the treaty. Jacques Delors, the European Commission president has said little from his holiday retreat in the Auvergne but offered Mitterrand a clue to what may be the president's line of counter-attack. A "no" vote, he said, would be a "massive loss of credibility for France". But M Delors would be bound to argue like that. If France says "no", then the treaty will be dead. And M Delors' chances of becoming the next president of France will not look very healthy either.

Diary, page 12

Germans take stock as city clears debris of racist riots

FROM IAN MURRAY IN ROSTOCK

COUNCIL workers began clearing up the mess yesterday caused by four nights of racist rioting in Rostock. Residents seemed shamed as they stood in little knots outside the 11-storey block where Romanian refugees had lived, staring almost unbelieving at the smashed windows and the smoke stains around them. Ask Manfred Hamann if he is a Nazi and he becomes visibly angry. "My father was killed by the Nazis because he was a communist," he says. "I hate them." But ask him if he wants a hostel for foreigners on his "nice, clean" housing estate and he grows just as annoyed. "They are filthy," he spits. "They ruin the quality of your life."

This is the apparent contradiction which the far right in Germany contrived to exploit on the Lichtenhagen estate here and which led to violence and the real fear in Bonn that neo-Nazi ideas were gaining ground in east Germany. Sixty-five policemen were injured and 53 people were arrested in the east German port on Tuesday night as up to 700 rioters battled with more than 1,000 policemen using tear gas and water cannon. The abandoned hostel remained the focal point even though the Romanian gypsies and Vietnamese families had left. More than 250 people have been arrested since the hostel was first attacked. Most have been freed pending possible charges but prosecutors

said that 12 would remain in custody and would be charged with assault.

It was not so much the chants of "Ausländer raus" from a relatively small number of young men that worried the pensioners and the applause from neighbours as the neo-Nazis put the boot in. The police, trying to make arrests, were hampered by the way in which the crowd protected the men who dived into the bystanders and seemed to disappear.

If the local residents did not set fire to the hostel, they did little or nothing to stop it happening, and were duly grateful that the violence forced the "filthy gypsies" to leave. Mostly, however, they blamed the police. "They should never have left the place unguarded. Then they could never have got in to start the fire," said Rita Schulz. "We wanted the gypsies to go, but not this way." Everyone blamed Bonn. "Those politicians simply don't know what they are talking about when they say Germany must be a land of asylum," said Markus Lippmann, one of the 17 per cent unemployed in Rostock. "They go home to a nice comfortable house while we have to try to survive on the dole and put up with the filth of the people they send here."

The feeling runs deep but in sending so many Romanian gypsies to Rostock the West



Burning passions: a youth prepares to throw a stone in Rostock where 65 policemen were injured in a fourth night of rioting

(west Germans) were once more showing their disdain for the Ossi (east Germans). Asylum-seekers are shared between the different German states by quota and the people of Rostock believe that they have been sent a disproportionate number of gypsies because their unhygienic life-style would offend people in the west.

Up to 70 were arriving daily at the hostel which had only 320 places. The result was that newcomers camped outside, turning the neat lawns into a

filthy campsite covered in rubbish and faeces. The neo-Nazis exploited the simmering discontent. The tactic was simple. They started a demonstration with a handful of supporters who gained publicity and thus attracted rowdies from all over Germany.

German intelligence said in its annual report last month that neo-Nazi organisations were growing and events in Rostock have proved this to be true. The ringleaders were seen using two-way radios to pass messages about police

movements. Even in setting fire to cars, the men seemed to have been careful. Only old Trabants were set alight while the new Volkswagens and Fords were left alone, suggesting that they did not want to antagonise the proud owners of new vehicles. The aim was to win popularity by getting rid of the gypsies, and in this they succeeded.

Now the state's coalition government is in trouble with the liberal Free Democrats threatening to walk out. There are calls for the resignation of

Berndt Seite, the prime minister, and Lothar Kupfer, the interior minister. The police chief, Hans-Heinrich Heinsen, is complaining that his men are badly equipped and demoralised.

Outside a church in the middle of the city yesterday a small group of young skin-

heads was certainly not demoralised. They were strutting about, waving at the bemused crowds like a band of conquering heroes. It is their ability to manipulate the discontent and emotions in east Germany which is the real worry for the politicians in Bonn.

PEOPLE

Jagger and Hall dine in Dallas

Mick Jagger and Jerry Hall, whose marriage was reported to be on the rocks, showed up together over the weekend at The Mansion, a glamorous Dallas restaurant. Jagger, 49, took a break from recording in California to visit Ms Hall, a 36-year-old model, and their three children at the couple's ranch in Lone Oak, about 60 miles northeast of Dallas. "Mick was very loving and attentive," an observer said.

Edward Lee Howard, the only CIA officer to defect to the Soviet Union, has returned to Moscow from Sweden where he went as the Soviet Union was collapsing. He is wanted in the United States on charges of selling to the Soviet KGB secrets that allegedly destroyed America's spy operation in Moscow.

The South African playwright Athol Fugard says a picture of white soldiers dumping bodies of black guerrillas into a mass grave inspired his new work, *Playland*. "The photograph seemed to sum up the horrors of our Angola border war, which for South Africa was our Vietnam."

Filming of *Jurassic Park* has begun on Hawaii's Kauai Island North Shore. The film, directed by Steven Spielberg, is about genetically engineered dinosaurs on the rampage in a theme park.

IMF rejects Russian hyperinflation fears

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

A SENIOR official of the International Monetary Fund yesterday gave an upbeat assessment of Russia's economic reforms and said he saw no evidence of the hyperinflation that Russians dread. Richard Erb, deputy director of the IMF, admitted that production figures were disappointing and structural reform was taking longer than hoped, but he expressed confidence that he found his last visit in the IMF met, clearing the way for further credits.

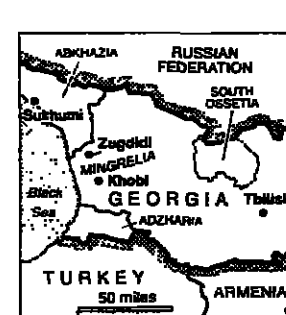
Mr Erb's optimistic forecast, made at the end of a two-day visit to Moscow, conflicted with increasingly doom laden assessments from many Russian and some Western analysts who say Russia's inflation is already out of control and fear imminent economic collapse. One such view came yesterday from Academician Nikolai Petrakov, a former adviser to President Gorbachev, who told a Moscow conference that the Russian economy had "entered inflation". He accused the government of imposing "the most barbaric and cynical form of wage freeze", by delaying payment of wages and pensions for months on end. By the end of July, he said, the state's "debt" to the people was 156.5 billion roubles (€465 million at the current exchange rate), or more than 20 per cent of state revenue. He predicted that the exchange rate of the rouble would continue to fall, reach-

ing 250 to 300 roubles to the dollar before the end of the year. The current market rate in Moscow is 168 roubles.

Mr Erb's reasons for taking the opposite view were based partly on talks with leading Russian officials, including Viktor Gerashchenko, the recently appointed head of the central bank, and partly on the visible contrast he observed between the bustling private trade in Moscow now and its absence during his last visit in December. He also cited figures for July which showed that the rate of inflation had slowed to 7.5 per cent.

Mr Erb, while conceding that one month's figures could hardly be considered a trend, said that they were nonetheless a hopeful sign. He said: "Certainly, there is no evidence of hyperinflation developing. Concerns that prices are in the process of exploding are misplaced."

The reduction of the monthly inflation rate to single figures is one of the targets set by the IMF before it will consider granting the next instalment of credit. The first tranche, \$1 billion (£500 million), was released last month. The IMF also appears to take a more hopeful view of the rouble's strength than many Russians. Mr Erb said the fall in its value was not nearly as great as the rouble's domestic decline due to inflation. The exchange rate had held up better than might have been expected.



Yeltsin acts to stop Georgia war

BY BRUCE CLARK

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday promised decisive measures to help restore peace to Georgia's Black Sea coast as irregular fighters from south Russia clashed with troops dispatched to the region by Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader.

Each side claimed to have killed dozens of men in an encounter, near the resort of Gagra, between the Georgian army and a force of 1,500 men that included many volunteers from neighbouring regions of Russia as well as local men from the separatist Abkhazian minority. The fighters on the separatist side include Chechens and ethnic Adygeys.

Mr Yeltsin pledged to do "everything possible to help find a civilised, democratic solution" to the conflict in Abkhazia based on negotiations and the withdrawal of troops from the area.

Capri claims marble altar from Britain

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

AN ITALIAN pressure group has urged Alberto Ronchey, Italy's minister of cultural heritage, to demand the return to Capri of the priceless marble altar of Cybele from the British Museum.

The request was made in a report submitted by Franco Nocella, the secretary of the Italian branch of Feder-Mediterraneo, a non-governmental agency with links to the United Nations and the European Community. The two-foot high cylindrical marble monument to Cybele, the goddess of fertility venerated by the Romans, was discovered in the 1790s by Norberto Handrawa, an Austrian archaeologist sent to Capri by Ferdinand IV. It was found in the Villa of the Sea Palace that is believed to have been built by either Emperor Augustus or Emperor Tiberius. It dates to the period 30BC to 37AD.

Handrawa sold the monument to Sir William Hamilton, the Englishman active in the Neapolitan court, and it is now in the collection of the British Museum, according to reports in the newspapers *Il Giornale* and *La Repubblica*.

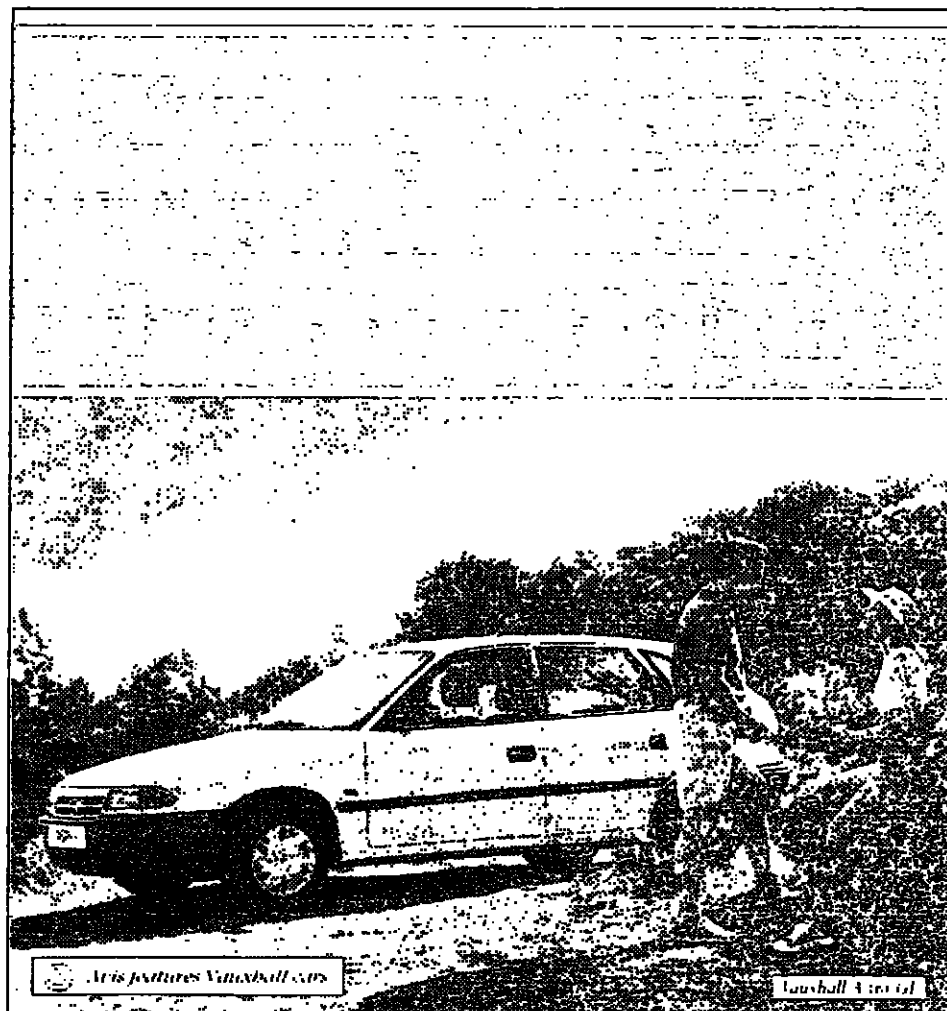
In support of his case Signor Nocella cited a resolution, proposed by 18 countries headed by Greece, under examination by the UN aimed at obtaining the return of works of art to their countries of origin. A ministry spokesman in Rome said a decision on the request is unlikely until

Signor Ronchey returns from his summer holiday later this month. But Salvatore Borà, a Sicilian writer and historian of Capri who has lived on the island for 40 years, says there is considerable support for the proposal among the islanders.

"Undoubtedly there is a movement favouring a return of the altar so that it can be enjoyed on the site where it was found," he said. He added that numerous Roman relics were sold by peasants to British troops when Capri was briefly a British protectorate between 1806 and 1808, and to French soldiers during the subsequent French invasion. "Archaeological associations also are interested in reclaiming a statue of Tiberius from the Louvre and other items held in New York," Signor Borà said.

The Italian government is likely to think carefully before turning the case into an interstate controversy similar to the furore that raged over the Elgin Marbles. Italy might be obliged to return numerous Egyptian treasures held in Rome.

In Urbino, the birthplace of Raphael, the authorities have received a poor response to an appeal to Rome and the EC for funds to repair a section of the city's Renaissance ramparts that collapsed in June after heavy rains. Only a fraction of the 30 billion lire (£13.6 million) needed has been disbursed so far.



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Spare us ceasefires

The peace talks will prove
futile, says Martin Ivens

Sarajevo was burning yesterday. Hundreds of rockets, mortar shells and anti-aircraft heavy machine-guns have been blasting the city from the encircling Serbian positions at a rate of one explosion every five seconds. Yes, another Yugoslav peace conference has been convened. There could be no more poignant backdrop to the circus going on at the Queen Elizabeth Centre in Westminster. The delegates turn up in their shiny suits to talk about peace, while the bruits of diplomacy are cruelly exposed on the ground.

Lord Carrington evidently has begun to appreciate the irony of his situation. He has resigned as the chief EC mediator in Yugoslavia. Revealingly, he told reporters: "I had no idea how easy it was for almost all those concerned to agree to a ceasefire or anything you suggested, with not the smallest intention of doing anything about it". Douglas Hurd loyally says the conference will build on "the good work" of Lord Carrington. He was not so kind to his old friend two months ago when I called on him at his offices at Christie's. I told Carrington that Mr Hurd was off to the UN that day to discuss Yugoslavia. He told me this could not be the case, but that evening Hurd arrived in New York.

The acting American Secretary of State, Lawrence Eagleburger, who is also a former friend of the Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic, has yet to complete his disillusioning education. He can still express surprise that the fighting has intensified. "The Serbs obviously are intent on establishing as good a position as they can on the ground prior to the convening of the conference, and it's an outrage," he said yesterday. Perhaps he should have listened to Major Lewis Mackenzie, who served as UN commander in Sarajevo. "God protect us from ceasefires. It seems whenever we have a ceasefire the level of fighting goes up."

The official in Mr Eagleburger's State Department responsible for managing Balkan policy on a day-to-day basis, George Kenney, was not so surprised as his boss by the latest "outrage". He has just resigned in protest at what he calls an "ineffective" American response to the fighting. He told *The Washington Post* that missing from the diplomatic round were "very strong pressures, including military pressures against Serbia to stop its campaign of genocide in Bosnia". Mr Kenney has been to finishing school.

Isaiah Berlin, comparing Dostoevsky with Tolstoy, used the analogy of the fox and the hedgehog. The cunning fox knows many things, the hedgehog (Tolstoy) knows one big thing. Western diplomats know a lot about trade negotiations, the minutiae of EC agreements, Rumania's constitution and the trade imbalance with Freedonia. Warlords in Yugoslavia are less sophisticated. They have never been to Oxbridge, Harvard or the *grandes écoles*, and fail to understand the fine arts of compromise. They believe in simple things like killing their enemies and winning at all costs.

Lord Carrington once complained of the "bigotry and insubriety" of Northern Ireland politicians, and described the Reverend Ian Paisley as the "bigot of all bigots". He let his sentiments be widely known, and the Unionists last year objected to his appointment as an independent chairman in all-party talks on Ulster. The Yugoslavs of every ethnic persuasion, as all our diplomats agree, are also "bigotful shits". In short they are thoroughly un-British.

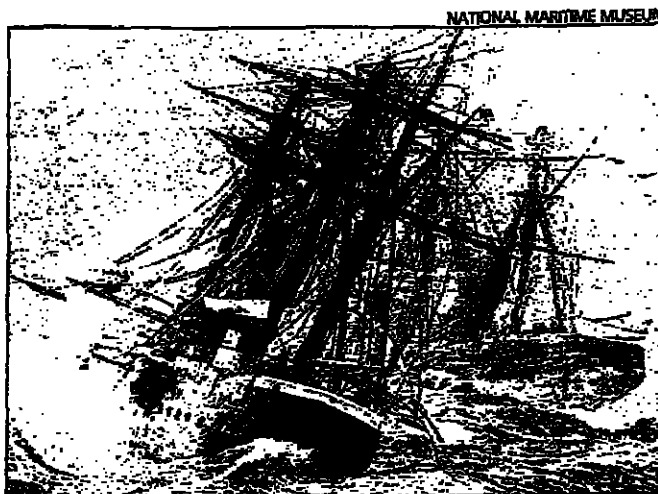
Almost four years ago the journalist Peter Millar described the ethnic hatred Slobodan Milosevic was whipping up among Serbs against the Albanians of Kosovo, and, by extension, the Croats and the Slovenes. Foreign correspondents could see what was coming. Yet last summer, James Baker and Mr Hurd were still defending the integrity of Yugoslavia.

Before that a correspondent described the effect of a gas attack by Saddam Hussein's forces on the Kurdish village of Halabja in Iraq. Later another reporter described Saddam's Nebuchadnezzar-like ambitions in the Middle East and the triumphal arch of words he had built in Baghdad. At the time, "men of principle" such as Hurd and Baker were running ministries still actively helping Saddam Hussein with lucrative trade credits.

This week's meeting in London of bloody-handed warlords and smooth diplomats brings to mind the fable of the hedgehog and the fox. The ruthlessly single-minded will prevail.

Pieter van der Merwe on how the catastrophic power of hurricanes has helped shape history

A high wind in Florida



HMS Calliope escaping during the 1889 tornado in Samoa

As we watch the television images of the havoc being wrought in the Caribbean and America by Hurricane Andrew, it is easy to forget that consequences have often been much worse. The "Long Island Express" hurricane of September 1938, from New York to Vermont, killed 600 and left people wiping sea-salt from windows 120 miles inland.

Apart from demolition, tidal flood and up to 12 million tons of rain daily, the seabed can be torn up and straws driven into timber like darts. Cars are among the lighter missiles, with paint stripped to bare metal by flying sand. Violent seas have shifted a maximum 70,000 ton weight of concrete off its foundations. The Florida Labor Day hurricane of 1935 sandblasted victims to death, winds of up to 200 mph flaying them of clothes and skin.

Sometimes the cyclone makes a full loop. England's Great Storm of November 1703 may have formed around the tail of a Florida hurricane. Its 8,000-10,000 dead included more naval casualties in ships and men, said a 1749 source, "than ever were lost in any encounter

with an enemy". As with Andrew, local tornadoes were a by-product. At Whitstable a merchant ship was vacuumed out of the water and dropped 250 yards inland; a cow ended up in the top of a tree. The vaunted great storm of 1987 killed only three in Britain.

The word "hurricane" derives from Carib Indian language. The first English citation is from Richard Eden, in 1555, who immediately linked it to its oriental synonym, the typhoon: "These tempests of ayer (which the Grecians caule Tiphones, that is whirle winds) they caule Furacanes." King Lear's line "Blow! You cataracts and hurricanes" uses the word in the now obsolete sense of a water-spout. "Cyclone" was coined by the meteorologist Henry Piddington in 1848, after the Greek for "the coiling of a snake".

We still lack a full explanation of hurricanes. We know they form over warm seas between 5 and 30 degrees north and south

of the Equator, tracking broadly west and north in the Atlantic and often wreaking havoc as far as New England. The beast itself is a centrifuge of winds at Beaufort Force 12 minimum, 72 mph (and often double that), with a span perhaps 500 miles

across. Warm wet air rises in the low-pressure centre, cools, falls and forms heavy cloud at the perimeter. Spinning by Coriolis force, from earth's rotation, in the same way and direction as bathwater goes down the plug-hole, it pumps out thousands

of megatons of energy daily. Surrounding high pressure steers it erratically landward, and when terra firma cuts its water-supply it collapses.

The highest casualties have always been in the East — 300,000 on the Indo-China coast in 1881 for example — and Atlantic deaths have rarely reached 2,000. An exception was the West Indies "Great Hurricane" of October 1780, which killed around 20,000. Galveston in Texas lost 6,000 dead (a sixth of its population), with 3,600 houses destroyed, in 1900. Since then it has been protected by a massive 11-mile sea wall.

In the age of sail shipping, losses were catastrophic, but living Americans still remember the fate of Task Force 38, caught refuelling at sea by a Philippines typhoon in December 1944. It lost three destroyers, 146 aircraft and 790 men. In 1945, the heavy cruiser USS Pittsburgh had its bows ripped clean off. Although hurricanes radically

affected Caribbean naval affairs in the American War of Independence, not least in 1780, their most remarkable impact on world politics was at Samoa in 1889. Here HMS Calliope, under Captain Kane, arrived to find a bellicose German squadron starting a colonial war with the inhabitants, who were already under protection of an equal American force. Kane's meditations were aided by the hurricane of March 15-16, from which only Calliope escaped, thanks to brilliant handling and relatively advanced engines. All six German and American warships were wrecked, with 150 dead and heroism from all sides in a joint life-saving effort.

The outcomes were extraordinary. Bismarck hosted a Berlin conference which framed political solutions lasting until 1914. The incident also launched the modern American navy in terms of technical advance and the global application of seapower. Robert Louis Stevenson, an eyewitness, called it "a marking epoch in world history".

The author is a historian at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

Calling the Bundesbank's bluff

Mr Lamont must have the courage
to wage economic war against the
Germans, argues Anatole Kaletsky

When Churchill recommended "jaw, jaw" as a policy in preference to "war, war", he was not, of course, referring to battles in the foreign exchanges. And he had in mind rather more accomplished jaws than those of Norman Lamont. After yesterday's collective raspberry from the world's currency dealers, the Chancellor may have got the message. The markets want action not words.

Conventional wisdom in the City has it that there is only one action tough enough to convince investors to stop selling sterling: an increase in interest rates, and one much bigger than the half a percentage point that is making Tory backbenchers and industry leaders swoon with dread. Some indication of what might be required to "defend" sterling comes from Britain's own experience: in the autumn of 1981, Sir Geoffrey Howe lifted base rates from 12 per cent to 16 per cent in 1988-9 defending the pound required a doubling of base rates from 7½ per cent to 15 per cent. Anyone who thinks that ERM membership would make a half-point increase sufficient should consider the experience of Italy, which raised interest rates to 17 per cent after the Danish referendum in June, yet is now floundering again at the bottom of the ERM.

Unlike Britain, however, Italy is a country whose economy is still growing and where consumers are net creditors, rather than debtors on a monumental scale. In Britain, by contrast, an increase of even a single percentage point in base rates would guarantee a deeper and more prolonged economic slump. This in turn, would undermine confidence in sterling, and might well counteract all of the supposed "benefits" of higher interest rates. So for Mr Lamont to opt for higher rates to defend sterling might well prove financially counter-productive. But what else could the government do?

The answer is fight back. As in any war, the first task is to identify the real enemy, the second is to assess his true objective, and the third is to launch a counter-attack. All three of these tasks have been made much easier in the last few weeks by the actions of the Bundesbank.

In a series of carefully timed speeches and public statements, the Bundesbank has been engaging in an almost open battle against the politicians of Germany, America and the rest of Europe. Two weeks ago, the campaign of supposedly coordinated interventions by world central banks to prop up the dollar was openly sabotaged by the Bundesbank's director for international affairs, who stated publicly that Germany would buy dollars only at Washington's behest. Yesterday the president of the state central bank of North-Rhine Westphalia declared that ERM currencies had "potential for realignment" within minutes of Mr Lamont's promise that a realignment was out of the question.

Even in Germany, the Bundesbank has begun to be identified as a political loose cannon, and a source of instability not only for European and transatlantic relations, but also for Germany's domestic economic affairs. The standard riposte to all criticisms of monetary policy is to recall the horrors of hyperinflation in the Weimar

Republic. But the unexpected increase in Germany's discount rate last month, which unleashed the present instability in the world's financial markets, seems to have shaken even the German establishment. It has provoked a series of sharp attacks in the German media by economists, trade unionists and even some opposition politicians.

These culminated on Monday, in *Der Spiegel*, the authoritative news weekly, which ran a three-page attack on the central bank's political ambitions, entitled "Sabotage against Bonn". *Spiegel* compared the Bundesbank's secret and politically unaccountable decision-making with that of the Communist party politburo in the former East Germany.

What has all this to do with sterling and Mr Lamont? The fact is that the present turbulence in the world financial markets is not a "sterling crisis", nor even a dollar crisis, but a mark crisis. It is the mark — with its shadow, the Swiss franc — that is moving out of line with other world currencies, not the pound, dollar, franc or yen. The mark's over-



Currency out of control: memories of the great inflation of the Twenties fuel Germany's monetary neurosis today

weening strength, in turn, is caused by the monetary and political objectives of the Bundesbank. Britain's misfortune is that it pinned the pound to the mark at precisely the time that Germany's monetary policy began to fall into disarray. The government must obviously have the option of simply detaching the pound from the mark, but like the French, Italian and other European leaders, Mr Major has pinned his entire political credibility to maintaining the present exchange-rate with the mark.

The European governments have been encouraged to do this by the German government's support of the ERM and promotion of the idea of European monetary union. The Bundesbank has always opposed EMU, since it would entail the loss of its status as an independent institution. The international financial chaos in the run-up to the French referendum has now given it a last chance to kill EMU, and this is the battle now

being played out in the foreign exchanges. Fortunately, it is a battle in which the British, French and other European governments enjoy a big tactical advantage. Under the rules of the ERM, the Bundesbank is obliged to intervene in the markets without limit as soon as the pound or any other currency reaches its absolute floor against the mark. Such intervention could have a huge and unwelcome impact on Germany's domestic money supply.

The mark reserves held last year by foreign central banks were about DM 151 billion, equal to more than half of Germany's domestic central bank money stock. Every DM 10 billion of marks sold by the central banks would increase Germany's money supply by 3.7 per cent.

By intervening aggressively against the mark, the other central banks can sabotage the Bundesbank's attempts to control the German domestic money supply. If their intervention fails, the rules of the ERM, over which the Bundesbank has no control, will require Germany to flood its

money markets with ever larger quantities of marks. In order to reassert control of its domestic money supply, the Bundesbank would then have to raise its interest rates even higher, but short of a really crippling increase in German rates, ERM rules would make it practically impossible for the Bundesbank to maintain monetary control.

Such a campaign of aggressive intervention against the mark would lead to one of two reactions: the Bundesbank would either quickly sue for peace and hint that the next move in German rates would be downwards, or it would counterattack with a further rise in German interest rates that would cripple German industry and provoke the collapse of the ERM.

Either way, after the dust had settled, Britain would be free to start cutting interest rates. For Mr Lamont to increase rates now, instead of standing up to the Bundesbank, would not be an act of courage. It would be the monetary equivalent of shooting himself in the foot before the battle was joined.

...and moreover

PETER BARNARD

I have walked the perimeter, which is no picnic given the forecast occasional showers which have joined themselves together somewhere overhead. I have clambered over the dry stone wall and taken sightings from sundry angles in the adjoining field of spring wheat, and I apologise for any diminution in subsidy this may have caused. Now I am back at the homestead, the soon-to-be famous homestead, the photographic homestead, fully acquainted with what needs to be done.

I have made notes and accompanying sketches. Ideally, I should have been airborne, as he will be. Never easy to tell, from the ground, even from the top of the drystone wall, how a building and its environs will strike a man in a helicopter.

Does long grass matter? Will the crack in the side wall show up? If so, should I rush out and buy a bag of set-in-minutes frost-resistant ready-mixed cement?

Will the presence of the cement make the crack more visible, thus meaning that I need at least two cans of Dulux Weathershield, the one that comes with a shaggy dog? Could I have a golden retriever instead? Preferably, my wife inserts, made of wood. This project has complications undreamed of when the letter came through the door.

In a plain brown envelope, without a stamp, I thought it was a bill, and indeed it could well turn into one. "Commissioner Air's helicopter will be flying over your area during the week com-

mencing Monday 21st September. At your request we will supply two (e.g. front and rear) 10" x 8" mounted aerial photographs of a property of your choice in full colour complete with negatives."

A property of my choice? Hint of a snide escape clause there, a rebuff. Is there something wrong with my property? They have been snooping around here already. I know they have. They have taken a provisional Polaroid, they have gathered in their flight briefing room and examined under a magnifying glass certain aspects of my property which suggest it is not in the round-the-clock care of overalled artisans with paint rollers and cementing trowels. But there is time yet: "You've got plenty of time to prepare, time to trim hedges and mow lawns." And: "Watch your photos being taken! Be in the garden on the day!"

We did not need the exclamation marks. We possess the reading skills. We have got the message. We shall be in the garden on The Day and on every day between this day and The Day. That is when we are not up a ladder making sure all the roof tiles are parallel, one with another, and free of moss. When we are not out buying clothes (smart-casual is our present leaning). When we are not up an even longer ladder, either removing the television aerial altogether or corseting it with steel braces and attendant stainless-steel bolts of sufficient diameter to ensure that it will appear in colour at a less

unconventional angle than its present one.

The garden shed, there is another worry. I bought the roofing felt months ago, but somehow... on one side of the shed roof, the felt has altogether vanished. We know how it feels to live in Louisiana. Wind? Tall ship captains beg us to package it. But you cannot actually see the bare bit of roof, so human nature being what it is... Inside the shed, left side, above the length of pipe that will come in handy one day, where the water comes in, well, carrots grow — and we have not even opened the seed packets yet. A miracle of nature.

From the air, though, very likely a different story. A gash on the landscape, that roof. I shouldn't wonder. An aesthetic offence likely to cause a helicopter pilot to slide back his perspex and toss me a note attached to a brick. Photographer has replaced lens hood, very sorry. I daresay it will be Snowden or O'Neill or Bailey, one of those up-market snappers, known as a smugger in the trade, one of those types who is unused, when summoning up a shed roof, to finding it half undressed. The Unipart calendar this is not.

So must get up on that shed roof, sooner. Which means it is just a question of the shed, the aerial, the quick-dry, the Dulux and the smart-casual. According to aforementioned leaflet, the cost of the two 10" x 8" complete with negatives is £69 including VAT. That is all they know.

Gone Green

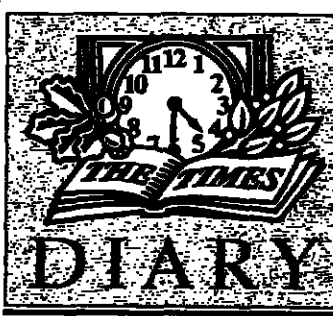
SARA PARKIN, leading light of the Greens, is quitting the party amid considerable acrimony at the outset of the conference season. After a bitter campaign against her by activists, Parkin announced yesterday that she was leaving, and denounced the party as riddled with "chronic mistrust" and blighted by internal manoeuvring which has reduced it to "political impotence".

The decision was immediately described as a "devastating blow" by the Greens' senior figures, who admitted that they had kept the simmering row quiet for six months in an attempt to minimise the damage to the party since its disastrous general election result.

Her resignation letter reads: "Sadly I have been forced to the conclusion that the Green Party has become a liability to green politics. Instead of being a standard bearer, the Green Party as it now only provides its detractors with regular proof of its ineffectiveness to contribute to the rapidly evolving political debate."

The former party leader adds: "I see no point in squandering my time and energy and spirit fighting endless redundant skirmishes behind the Green Party barricades. There are so many real battles to be fought against the forces destroying our world."

Her departure leaves Jonathan Porritt unchallenged in the party's leadership, although Greens detect the word. He could soon face a new challenge. David Icke — he of the purple trackuits — is planning a comeback, and is due to address the party's fringe at their conference in Wolverhampton next month. Perhaps Parkin got out just in time.



Who is Princess Squidgy? What is the star sign of the mystery man of the Diagonale trade? These are just some of the updated questions the purchasers of Royal Trivia can expect to find when they cough up their £12.50 for the board game which is also hugely popular in America. Royal Trivia is marketed by none other than Harry Arnold of the Daily Mirror, dapper of the royal ratpack. Arnold was unavailable for comment yesterday, on a fortnight's holiday, believed to be dreaming up new questions for the revised edition of his nice little earner.

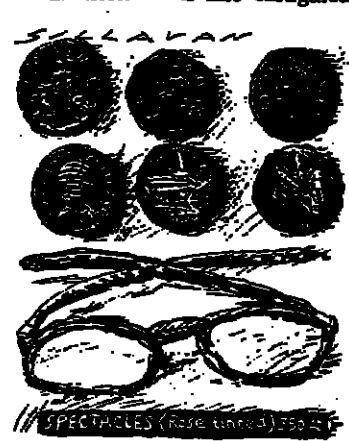
Classic howlers

PUPILS who discover that they have failed their ancient history exam, as the dreaded brown GCSE envelopes lands on the nation's doormats, have the full sympathy of the Roman Research Trust. The group, which brings together some of Britain's foremost academics in the subject, has denounced the examination resource books as "full of nonsense".

Dr Graham Webster, the group's trustee, says that the books being used by teachers of Roman history following the new national curriculum are riddled with mistakes. "I was appalled by the nonsense I found. I filled 18 foolscap pages with serious errors and misunderstandings," says Webster. "For ex-

ample they say Hadrian's Wall was built to keep out the Picts. But the Picts were sea raiders, who do not appear until the end of the 4th century."

Another assertion — that "the legions, on order from Rome, marched out of Britain in AD 410, and then there was the Anglo-Saxon invasion" — is also castigated.



by the trust. "No troops left Britain at this time, nor was there an Anglo-Saxon invasion," says Webster. These are totally outdated ideas from the old romantic view of history.

Not an EC life

WITH Lord Owen ruled out by several of the delegations to the Yugoslav peace talks, the London conference is awash with rumours about who will succeed Lord Carrington as the EC's peace envoy.

Owen's cause cannot have been helped by an article on this page earlier this month, entitled "When it is right to fight", in which he urged the deployment of Nato airpower. Yet there seems to be no obvious alternative candidate.

Perhaps the most eminent and qualified possibility is Hans

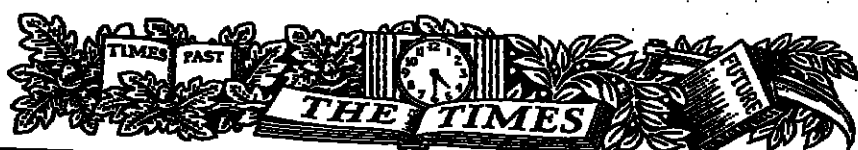
Dietrich Genscher, the former German foreign minister, who stood down last year. But it was Genscher, against Britain's wishes, who forced through early EC recognition of Croatia — a decision which the Serbs insist led to civil war.

If an alternative British candidate is acceptable, the name of Sir Edward Heath, who launched his own high-profile attempt to stop the Gulf war, may also be put forward, although his age might count against him. The same factor might rule out Lord Healey too.

Some cynics at the conference were yesterday suggesting that only a Belgian was sufficiently anonymous to do the job. If so, Viscount Eugene DeWignin, the former EC commissioner, who was supported for the EC presidency in 1984 by Baroness Thatcher, would not be a contender. A more exciting option would be the flamboyant former Italian foreign secretary, Gianni De Michelis, who had several supporters at the talks yesterday. With his generous waistline and unkempt hair, the Venetian socialist is best known for the top-selling guide he wrote to 250 of Italy's discotheques. He is unlikely to find many such establishments in present-day Bosnia.

Those who think that all politicians are hardened cynics would have been surprised and probably delighted yesterday at the sight of Jan Pronk, the Dutch minister for overseas development, bursting into tears in front of a Dutch parliamentary committee as he described his recent trip to famine-stricken Somalia. Pronk was moved not only to tears but also to action. With the Dutch foreign minister safely out of the way in London, Pronk — to the astonishment of his government colleagues — unilaterally increased the Dutch contribution to Somalia's aid budget to 23 million guilders.

John 11:150



MARKING TIME

Those nostalgic for the days of fixed exchange rates had a field day yesterday. Norman Lamont was forced to make a morale-boosting statement in the street, defying speculators to do their worst. Central banks spent millions by way of support. Dealers looked to their calendars to work out when reality was likely to break through. They found September 20, the date of the French referendum on Maastricht.

Given the box into which his predecessor had imprisoned him, Mr Lamont could have said nothing else yesterday. He had to rule out a devaluation of sterling and re-emphasise Britain's commitment to the exchange-rate mechanism. Anything less would have caused a run on the pound that would have made recent events in the foreign exchange markets seem humdrum. Yet since "realignments" are best made as a surprise, Mr Lamont's statement was also compatible with the very opposite of what he said. His was no guide to what is going to happen, merely a show of self-confidence, the familiar mood music of sterling crises past.

There is little prospect of a general realignment within the ERM before the French referendum. This is regrettable since the essence of the ERM is that it is not meant to be inflexible, or dependent on political events. Realignments are in order where monetary conditions demand them, as they do now. Raising interest rates in the present economic climate would be a disaster, and Mr Lamont and the entire cabinet are rightly appalled at the prospect.

However, the question of a realignment will surface straight after the French referendum, whatever its outcome. One is almost inevitable if the French vote "non". A partially present potential for realignment was yesterday outlined by one of the senior members of Germany's Bundesbank, who insisted that only "prestige reasons" had prevented such a realignment over the past five years. The Bundesbank later issued a

public denial, but this only emphasises the extreme sensitivity of the question.

The present turbulence may have been triggered by the slump in the dollar, which always tends to favour the mark and put downward pressure on other European currencies. But the underlying tension is due to Germany's economic difficulties, stemming from unification. What can be done to stop Germany's problem spilling on to its neighbours is the central question of European politics. The mark will not temporarily leave the ERM: removing the system's anchor would be tantamount to returning to free-floating exchange rates. A revaluation of the mark would be better, even at some risk of pushing the German economy further into recession.

A French no vote would remove any "prestige reasons" preventing a realignment. The ERM would no longer be seen as a precursor to a single currency. It would shrug off its self-imposed straitjacket and revert to the system of managed exchange rates that it originally was. A French yes vote would make the chances of a realignment somewhat smaller, but the underlying state of the German economy would remain problematic. German interest rates might have to rise again, in which case Mr Lamont would have no option but to raise rates or demand a sterling devaluation. Without a realignment, German interest rates would remain high for a long time, while Britain's economy would remain depressed and its politics in turmoil.

From a British point of view, a realignment that takes account of Germany's unusual economic position is desirable and vastly preferable to a unique devaluation of sterling. Until the French referendum, then, Mr Lamont must continue to prop up sterling through heavy intervention in the markets. After that, he must try to persuade his European neighbours that a realignment is overdue. Obsession with "prestige" is threatening to ruin their economies as well as his.

SOLDIERS OF PEACE

Is the world expecting too much of the United Nations? Does it believe that a new world order can be enforced by sending in the blue berets wherever a brush fire threatens to flare up into an international conflagration? Dr Boutros Boutros Ghali, the tart-tongued secretary-general, thinks so and is not afraid to tell the big powers to stop ordering in the UN without first calculating the political and financial costs.

Sitting beside John Major at the opening of the London conference on Yugoslavia, the secretary-general yesterday repeated these criticisms, aiming mainly at the West. The UN cannot do more than its mandate. It cannot alone find a durable political solution for Yugoslavia. The world must look for a new approach for resolving this and other conflicts by collective effort.

He is right. The resources of the UN and the time and energy of its staff are stretched too thin. Since the end of the Cold war, it has taken on almost as many new peace-keeping and humanitarian commitments as in its previous 40 years. UN forces, missions or rapporteurs have been sent to El Salvador, Somalia, South Africa, Cambodia and the Kurdish areas in Iraq as well as Yugoslavia. Yet few governments, least of all the Americans, seem ready to pay the bill for tossing the world's problems into the UN's lap.

On coming to office, Dr Boutros Ghali was asked by a summit of the security council to outline how the UN could strengthen its peace-making machinery, and especially how it could do more in the field of preventative diplomacy. His report, issued two months ago, was sensible, realistic and challenging. He said that enforcing the peace, in the way many were proposing in Yugoslavia and Cambodia, would demand troops much more heavily armed than those used to monitor ceasefires. The UN often needed to act quickly, drawing on forces which could be deployed within days. The

richer nations should therefore designate peace-enforcement units within their own armed forces, who would be specially trained and paid from national defence budgets rather than by the impecunious UN.

This report was given a polite but lukewarm reception. Few Western governments have yet faced up to the need to finance UN operations directly from their own budgets. Most accept the need for early action to warn of starvation, ethnic conflict and threats to international stability. But until these threats become real and fill the television screens, public opinion and hence governments care little for tomorrow's conflicts.

One part of his report, however, has been more productive. Dr Boutros Ghali insisted that regional organisations should do more to keep the peace in their part of the world. For the past two months he has accused the Europeans of unloading responsibilities that should be their own in Yugoslavia. As he said again yesterday, Europe has vast economic and military resources. Yet it had failed to respect the agreed division of labour with the UN, leaving UN soldiers exposed, their orders confused and their resources stretched. The London conference is recognition that the EC, in co-operation with Nato, the Western European Union and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, must do its bit.

Subsidiarity applies as much to security as it does to politics and economics. The UN in New York cannot patrol the world any more than Brussels can rule Europe. Douglas Hurd pertinently asked in his *Panorama* interview on Monday: do we really want the UN as a new imperial power deciding that this or that ruler was bad and had to go? The UN enshrines the principles on which any post Cold war order must be based. It may deal with threats to international security but it cannot reorder the mayhem of every mismanaged state.

TIMED TO FORGET

Among this year's box of tricks brought forth by the nation's buffoons at their annual summer festival is a gadget for improving on the human memory. It is a tiny computer and radio transmitter, worn like a wrist-watch. Into it goes all the information that the user thinks ought to be remembered. It can be told to remind the wearer to speak to a colleague at the first opportunity. When said colleague hoves into view (presumably also wearing one) the wristwatch thing goes wild with excitement.

Would the scientists who introduced the idea to the British Association for the Advancement of Science yesterday, Dr Abigail Sellen and Mike Lamming of the Rank Xerox research institute, welcome a small suggestion? Perhaps they could even program their prototype with it if they can remember how. It is that they should speak to Professor Harold Thimbleby of Stirling University at the first opportunity.

Professor Thimbleby is also appearing at Southampton University, though in decidedly anti-gadget mode. He was reporting research into the reason why John Major's nation is not yet at ease with itself, namely that it still cannot figure out how to work the timer on its video tape recorders. From this he draws a general point. Gadgetry, particularly the electronic kind, is too complicated. Nobody over 14 can remember how to use it.

The professor says that manufacturers build in knobs and buttons galore because they think it adds to their machine's high-tech selling points. The public is indeed taken in, until it gets home. At this point everybody needs a memory-prompting wrist-watch, provided it is not itself subject to what ought to be called the Thimbleby Principle. Only thus will they ever be able to remember

how to make all the other things work. The principle is that electronic gadgets increase in complexity until they reach the level of the user's incompetence. Designers invariably go one step too far. Carried away by what is technically feasible, they persuade themselves that all CD players, for instance, would welcome a facility to mess around with Beethoven's Fifth, to start it with the scherzo or mix it with Strauss.

To be a true Thimbleby, however, this advanced control feature must also be operated differently from every other version of its kind. Thus no two video machines will be over-complicated in the same way, so that mastering one is no use whatever towards mastering another. At least the chap who invented the wheel made sure the next one was the same pattern.

The average household now contains numerous digital clocks and timers, including the one that is crucial for video recording purposes. They also crop up on central heating controls, ovens, telephones, hi-fi systems and alarm clocks, and no doubt will soon be standard on dishwashers and vacuum cleaners too. Fine, except no two digital clocks are ever set or altered by the same procedure.

Twice a year at least, how to change a digital clock has to be rediscovered afresh by any teenage prodigy who happens to be around. They are the only ones whose brains, Professor Thimbleby has discovered, are supple enough for the mental gymnastics required. Unlike adults, they do not assume they know in advance how things work and thus they crack the secret quicker. They even have no inhibitions about resorting to the only known antidote to Thimblebism: when all else fails, read the instructions.

UN mandate for pressure on Iraq

From the Director of the United Nations Association, UK

Sir, Marc Weller makes a number of interesting points ("Intervention plans lack specific UN sanction", August 20); but I am not convinced by his statement that when, early last year, Iraq had been deemed to have done what was required to bring into force a definite cessation of hostilities, "the mandate to use force against Iraq lapsed".

UN Security Council resolution 678 permitted the use of "all necessary means", not just to secure the implementation of resolution 660 (i.e., to reverse the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait) but also to restore international peace and security in the area. There was, of course, no time scale for the full implementation of that November 1990 resolution (678).

So, the question arises whether the action of the Iraqi government against its own citizens in the southern marshlands constitutes a threat to peace in the area. Given the Iraqis' interest in the area's Shia inhabitants, there is a strong case for arguing that a threat does, indeed, exist.

Very sadly, there remain various security council demands which the Iraqis have not yet met. I suggest that the council should send forthwith a list of all these unfulfilled requirements to President Saddam Hussein, via an influential intermediary, together with a specific timetable for their implementation.

We are fearful that, without such an approach, the UN will simply lurch from crisis to crisis in its relationship with Iraq, with little credit to the security council — and Saddam will continue to prevaricate. Yours faithfully, MALCOLM HARPER, Director, United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 3 Whitehall Court, SW1, August 24.

UK record on aid

From the Minister for Overseas Development

Sir, It is disappointing that the Director General of Save the Children Fund, in his interview with Valerie Grove ("Big Brother is watching you", *Life & Times*, August 14), chose not to include the UK in the list of countries which "choose to channel funds through us" — all the more so because the British government has a particularly close working relationship with the SCF.

My department has dramatically increased support for the non-governmental sector in recent years. Between 1989-90 and 1990-1, the last years for which final figures are available, our support rose by 35 per cent, and I expect that the increase between 1990-1 and 1991-2 will be even greater.

Last year alone we provided SCF with over £10 million for humanitarian relief work and £3.5 million for their long-term development work. Somalia, Ethiopia, northern Iraq, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Liberia are just some of the countries where SCF have recently brought relief to victims of famine and civil strife.

Yours truly, CHALKER OF WALLASEY, Overseas Development Administration, 94 Victoria Street, SW1.

Women engineers

From the Secretary of the Institute of Marine Engineers

Sir, I can readily confirm what Mr. Negus (letter, August 21) does us the credit of assuming — that we do not practise sexual discrimination in electing members to this institute.

We would welcome women to the grade of fellow with open arms. They would follow fittingly in the footsteps of a remarkable lady called Victoria Drummond, who qualified in the 1920s, had a distinguished war record, and eventually sailed the China seas as a chief engineer.

Sadly, however, marine engineering is not a branch of the engineering profession that so far has attracted many women to its ranks, and some of those who have embarked on the appropriate course of studies have not subsequently attempted to pursue a career in this field.

Those who stay the course will find no barriers to progress within the echelons of this institute.

Yours sincerely, JOLYON SLOGGETT, Secretary, The Institute of Marine Engineers, The Memorial Building, 76 Mark Lane, EC3, August 24.

National park control

From the Director of the Council for National Parks

Sir, Your leader of August 18, "Preserving a park", supports the proposal that Exmoor National Park should be run as a local government unitary authority, its boundaries would be extended to include neighbouring towns.

The authority would be responsible not only for conservation, recreation and planning but also for the whole range of local authority services. In effect there would no longer be a national park but a standard unit of local government. High-

Teachers who tread on parent rights

From Mr Colin MacVicar

Sir, Lady Warnock ("Trampling on teachers", August 24) complains that the governors of St Paul's Girls' School, under pressure by conservative parents, have rejected the proposals of the high mistress. She should be aware that it is no longer self-evident that teacher knows best.

For certain "professionals" it may be a bore having to persuade conservative parents of the rightness of any major innovation; but the exercise may be beneficial. I wish all the "progressive changes" proposed for education in the last 40 years had been subjected to analysis by such a concerned, sceptical audience.

In any case, in a world where consumers have rights and citizens have charters, it simply will no longer wash for educationists to claim the right to ride rough-shod over parents. Lady Warnock would have done better to address herself to the problem of recreating mutual respect between the educational establishment and parents rather than dismissing parents as reactionary, over-demanding clients.

I am sure that there will continue to be many women teachers who are eager to consider parents not as a pack of nuisances, haunted by myths, bamboozled by the press and obsessed by results, but rather as the intelligent, informed and involved partners that many are.

Yours sincerely, C. P. MACVICAR, 59d Fernhead Road, W9, August 24.

From Mr J. R. Stone

Sir, I read Lady Warnock's lament with the greatest concern. I recall all too vividly the miserable "reform" that was inflicted on my generation 25 years ago in the name of maximising the number of O levels.

Then, as now, those responsible for admissions at the more sought-after universities found it difficult to put much weight on GCE results, as these failed utterly to help them discriminate between the good candidate and the merely efficient. An admissions tutor at Oxford, for example, who paid more than passing attention to O-level results, other than in relation to pre-A level candidates, would have been accused by his colleagues of missing the point. In the circumstances of the late 1960s a decision to require a dozen or more O-level subjects to be studied was presented to schools as a broadening of the curriculum, which indeed it was when compared with their previous system of four O levels (done in a year), three A levels and a headlong tilt at university entrance by the age of 18.

So it is now, with this dismal insistence on the largest possible number of GCSEs. In each generation those who seek to multiply middle-school examination passes

have attacked a symptom and thereby entrenched the disease.

Lady Warnock is absolutely right to imply that in the higher reaches of our secondary education system a concentration on public mid-school examinations can only constrict the educational process. The answer now is what it should have been then: worry only about those examinations which will matter in the child's future (A levels), ignore the others and use the resulting freedom to do something sensible and enjoyable with those mid-school years.

If Mrs Williams, the high mistress who has resigned, described the inevitable result of the contrary approach as an examination-induced desert she, too, was merely speaking the truth.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY STONE, 90 Cromwell Avenue, Highgate, N6, August 24.

From Mr Kenneth Briggs

Sir, Is it true, as Lady Warnock asserts, that universities pay "virtually no attention" to lists of GCSEs at grade A? Recent discussions I had with an Oxford admissions tutor suggested not, simply because, at the application stage, there is no further firm academic evidence to go on and schools' A-level forecasts are treated with much caution.

However, as a teacher in a similarly academic school to St Paul's Girls I would certainly like to think it was true. Lady Warnock's vision of excellence and "educational imagination", untrammelled by the requirements of large numbers of examination courses, presents a challenge that we in the privileged independent sector should relish.

Our pupils are, by and large, more keenly motivated than those in the maintained sector. We should be able to "sell" them worthwhile and demanding courses without the constraints of an ubiquitous examination carrot, and thereby justify our independence.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH BRIGGS, 86 The Green, Acomb, York, August 24.

From Sir Graham Hills, FRSE

Sir, Sensible people will applaud Mary Warnock's spirited defence of Helen Williams. At the same time they will question whether it is entirely consistent with her simultaneous defence of A levels.

It is this pernicious examination which drives the forces of early specialisation down into the middle school where, as she remarks, they do lasting damage.

Yours faithfully, GRAHAM HILLS, Sunnyside of Threepwood, Laigh Threepwood, Beith, Ayrshire.

A name for the adopted

From Mrs Philippa Seligman

Sir, Heather Kirby's article, "Adoption and adaptation — a father's dilemma" (*Life & Times*, August 25), highlights the need for care when choosing words to differentiate between children born into a family and those brought in by adoption. To refer to the former as "natural" implies that the latter are unnatural. Similarly, the often-used "biological" sounds like a soap powder.

Perhaps the best we can do is "birth child" and "adopted child", thus permitting "birth mother" etc. Terminology influences society's attitudes, and vice versa.

Yours sincerely, PHILIPPA SELIGMAN (Chairman, Association for Family Therapy), 22 West Orchard Crescent, Llandaff, Cardiff.

Dull and moronic?

From Mr Jonathan King

Sir, Janet Daley ("Roll over disc jockeys", August 18) slams Radio One as "dull, patronising and moronic", knocking the "perpetual phone-ins". They don't have phone-in programmes on Radio One.

Despite general BBC hierarchy distaste for "pop music" and with very little support from the British music industry, Radio One has in fact spent a quarter of a century promoting British artists in a very difficult position. With a duty to appeal to all listeners, because of its charter and instructions from the BBC board, it has trodden the risky path of combining mass-appeal and pioneering spirit.

It has provided dreadful jokes alongside intelligent documentaries

and instant, commercial hits at the same time as extraordinary new music. As a result, British music still rules the world, mainly thanks to Radio One having the guts to promote fresh talent (something that never happens in America — even on college radio).

Hasn't Janet Daley appreciated the live concert coverage that Radio One provides? Hasn't she noticed that the best innovative American groups and artists break in the UK first and only then get picked up by the stunnily conformist US radio? I thought Miss Daley's piece was dull, patronising and moronic.

Best wishes, JONATHAN KING, UK Records Communications and Entertainment, 66 George Street, W1, August 18.

by your leader, two thirds of those who serve on a national park authority are councillors from the park and its environs; people who have been elected to serve their local communities. Importantly, the other third is made up of local people with expertise to offer who have been invited by the secretary of state to serve the national interest in the parks.

The priority should be to make the park authorities more effective by introducing the promised national parks legislation and not to dilute them by absorbing them into local government.

Yours sincerely, AMANDA NOBBS, Director, Council for National Parks, 246 Lavender Hill, SW11, August 19.

Council tax and housing market

From the Director of the Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation

Sir, Tony Travers ("Worse than poll tax?", August 18) may be guilty of a little midsummer exaggeration in his description of the dire effect the introduction of the council tax is likely to have on the housing market next year.

It is academically correct, all other things being equal, to say that to switch from a person to a property tax will depress property values. But the reverse clearly did not happen when the poll tax was introduced in 1989 in Scotland and in 1990 in England. House values fell during that period, at a time when they should have been stimulated by the tax switch, at least at the upper end of the market.

The fact is that the effect of the tax changes was then swamped, and may well be again, by the much larger repercussions of interest-rate policy, confidence in the economy and the availability of credit. In any case, the effects of the switch for house owners were masked then, as they will be now, by the government's "transitional relief" arrangements, specifically designed to cushion the impact of higher bills where these arise from a change in system.

My guess is that the impact of the council tax valuation exercise on what remains a very fragile housing market may come rather earlier than April next year, when the tax arrives. The draft valuation lists are becoming available to local authorities and will be published in December.

Even though the bandings have been related to a valuation date of April 1991 — before the latest drift downwards in prices — they do appear, particularly in London and the south-east, to be at the very low end of most people's expectations. This no doubt reflects the natural caution of the valuers and the fact that they were carrying out fairly rough, external assessments.

The government will have a major task in the coming months to explain that these bandings are not valuations in the sense that we are used to when purchasing or mortgaging houses, and that their significance lies not in absolute values but in establishing relative values for the purpose of distributing a tax. Otherwise they may add a further downward twist to consumer confidence, on which the recovery of the economy clearly now depends.

Once this hurdle is passed, my personal view is that the council tax does represent a solid fiscal foundation for local government, capable of being used not only to regulate the boom/bust pattern in the domestic housing market, as referred to by Tony Travers, but also of establishing a tax system for local government distinctive from that operated by the centre, thus ensuring its financial freedom in an age of over-centralisation.

Yours faithfully, COLIN FARRINGTON, Director, The Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation, 41 Doughty Street, WC1.

Statutory sick pay

From Mr David Shamash

Sir, Your correspondents (August 19, 24) complain about the cost to employers of statutory sick pay. I have found it is preferable for one's secretary to fall pregnant rather than to fall ill.

Mine has just left to have a baby and we pay her statutory maternity pay which we get refunded in full, plus an extra 4.5 per cent compensation for national insurance paid.

Yours faithfully, DAVID SHAMASH (Director), Covent Garden Group, 34 Floral Street, WC2.

Willing subject

From Mr Jim Campbell

Sir, Catherine Howard's vow on her marriage to Henry VIII to be "buxom in bed" was indeed made at a time when buxom had totally different connotations from those it possesses today. However Lady Antonia Fraser (*Life & Times*, August 21) is not quite right in thinking that it meant "good-natured".

It did in fact mean "agreeable", but in the submissive sense of allowing the husband's will to prevail, in this case sexually, rather than an implied bearing affability.

Yours faithfully, JIM CAMPBELL, 48 Acomb Road, York, August 21.

From Professor W. T. Stearn

Sir, It is surprising indeed to find a writer of such precision as Lady Antonia Fraser attributed with saying that Henry VIII "conceived a lot of children as a young man". To conceive a child is a woman's privilege, to beget one a man's. I remember being taken to task some 65 years ago, as a schoolboy translating Latin, for not making this linguistic distinction.

"Madam there is no excuse", I can imagine Samuel Johnson saying in 1755, his Dictionary at hand.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM T. STEARN, 17 High Park Road, Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE

August 26: Mrs John Dugdale has succeeded Mrs Robert de Pass as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

KENSINGTON PALACE

August 26: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was represented by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott at the funeral of the Lady Rachel Peys, which was held in the Cathedral of Our Lady and Saint Philip Howard, Arundel, West Sussex, this morning.

YORK HOUSE

August 26: The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Prince Michael of Kent at the funeral of the Lady Rachel Peys, which was held in the Cathedral of Our Lady and Saint Philip Howard, Arundel, West Sussex, this morning.

Birthdays today

Mr Gerhard Berger, racing driver, 33; Sir Donald Bradman, cricketer, 84; Sir Hugh Byatt, diplomat, 65; Sir Stewart Carmichael, diplomat, 79; Lord Darnley of Easington, 73; the Earl of Eglinton and Winton, 53; Lady Antonia Fraser, writer, 60; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Gretton, 80; Mr D.M. Hart, trades unionist, 57; Mr Michael Holroyd, author, 57; Sir Alexander Johnston, former chairman, Board of Inland Revenue, 87.

Mr Bernhard Langer, golfer, 35; Mr John Lloyd, tennis player, 38; Lord Marks of Broughton, 72; Mr James Moynihan, MP, 72; Viscount Rotherham, 87; the Right Rev Richard Rutt, 67; Mother Teresa, missionary, 82; Mr Andy Turnbull, jockey, 44; Mr Derek Warwick, racing driver, 38; Lieutenant-General Sir John Watts, 62; Lord Winstanley, 74.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: George Hegel, philosopher, Stuttgart, 1770; Theodore Dreiser, novelist, Terre Haute, Indiana, 1871; Eric Coates, composer, Bucknall, Nottinghamshire, 1886; C. S. Forester, novelist, Cairo, 1899; Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th president of the USA 1963-69, Stonewall, Texas, 1908.

DEATHS: Titian, painter, Venice, 1576; Lope de Vega, dramatist, Madrid, 1635; James Thompson, poet, Richmond, Surrey, 1743; John Henry Foley, sculptor, London, 1874; Sir Rowland Hill, originator of the penny post, London, 1879; Louis Botha, first prime minister of South Africa 1910-19, Pretoria, 1919; Brian Epstein, manager of the Beatles, London, 1967; Dame Ivy Compton-Burnett, novelist, London, 1969; Haile Selassie, emperor of Ethiopia 1928-74, Addis Ababa, 1975; Louis Mountbatten, 1st Earl Mountbatten of Burma, assassinated by the IRA, Donegal Bay, 1979.

Over 30,000 people were killed when the volcano Krakatau in Indonesia erupted, 1883.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.M. Gordon and Miss A.L. Van Gelder. The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs J.G. Gordon, of Copper Hill, Ellington, North Humberdale, and Amy, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Robert Van Gelder, of Lafayette, California, USA.

Mr A.J. Hennessy and Miss A.M. Wintour. The engagement is announced between Anthony, youngest son of Mrs M. Hennessy and the late Mr A. Hennessy, of London, and Alexandra, daughter of Mrs F. Wintour and the late Mr J. Wintour, of London.

Mr M.C. Jamieson and Miss C.N. Crookenden. The engagement is announced between Martin Clive, son of Wing Commander and Mrs H.C. Jamieson, of Farnham, Surrey, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Napier and the Hon Lady Crookenden, of Twin Firs, Four Elms, Edenbridge, Kent.

Marriage

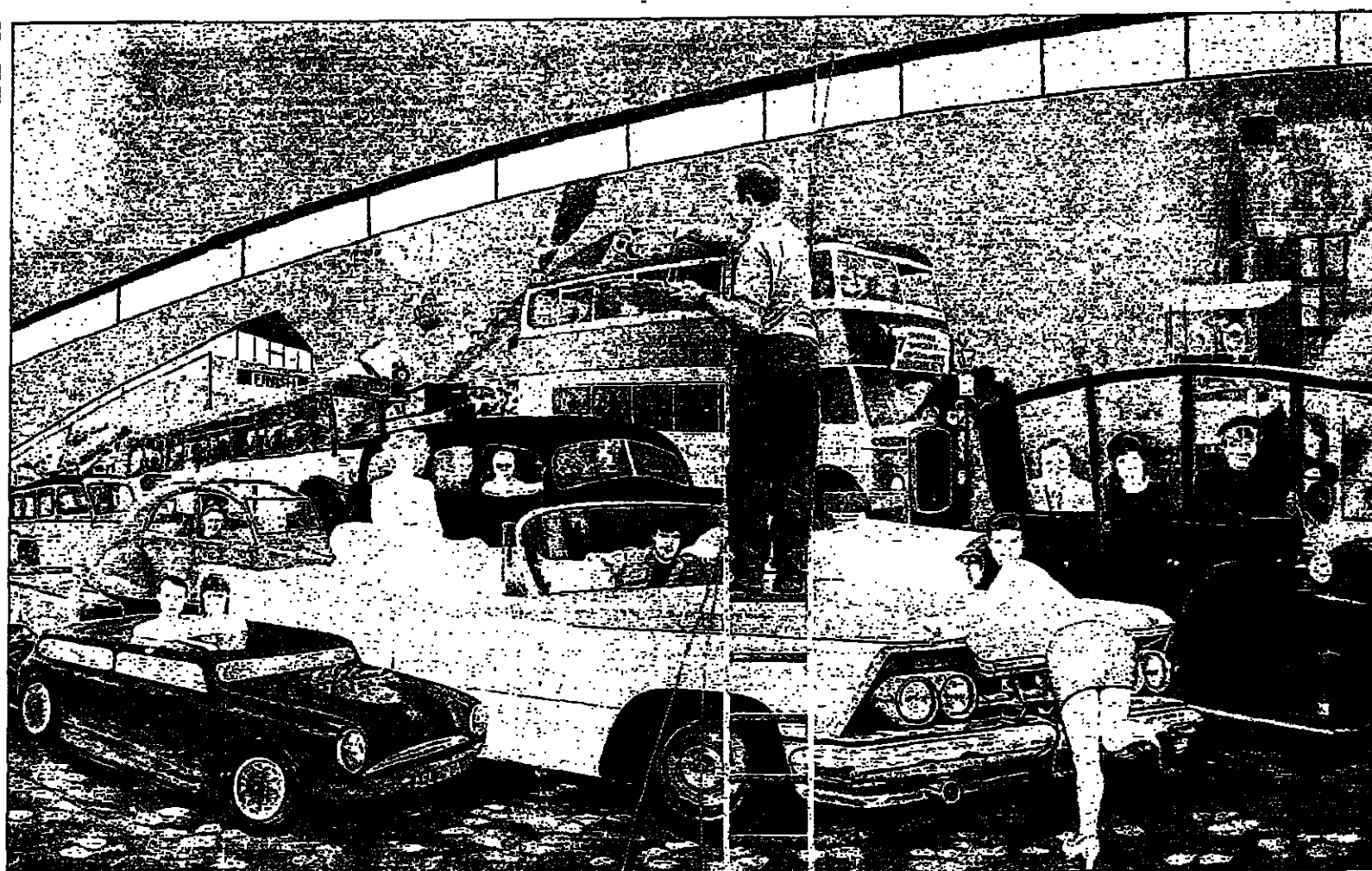
Mr Q.S. Fitzsimmons and Miss A.E. Edwards. The marriage took place at St Andrew's Parish Church, Farnham, Surrey, on Saturday, August 22, between Mr Q.S. Fitzsimmons and Miss Alice Edwards.

St Paul's Girls' School

The Governors of St Paul's Girls' School, Brook Green, Harmer-Smith, have appointed the Surmistris, Miss Janet Gough, as Acting High Mistress.

Lord Gilmour of Craigmillar

The life barony conferred upon Sir Ian Gilmour has been granted by the name, style and title of Baron Gilmour of Craigmillar, of Craigmillar in the District of the City of Edinburgh.



Robert Yates, a local artist, putting the finishing touches yesterday to his huge mural at the recently opened Yorkshire Car Collection in Keighley. It took him more than five months to complete the work, which depicts many of the veteran and vintage vehicles in the collection.

China joins world of auctions

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, SALEROOM CORRESPONDENT

COMMUNISM bows to Mammon in China when the People's Republic holds its first auction of art and antiques in October. The most valuable offering will be a pair of Ming vases estimated at \$500,000, and the entire consignment is expected to raise \$30 million. If all goes well, further sales will take place.

Most of the 2,000 items, which include textiles, paintings, jades, furniture, jewellery, and even cars, have languished in secret warehouses since being seized during the Cultural Revolution. Some have been dug up by descendants of owners who buried them hastily during the purge. The state has at last granted permission for them to be sold.

European organisation of the event is by a Dutch businessman called Peter Janssen, who has had 2½ years of painstaking negotiations with the Chinese authorities in order for his company, the China Art & Antique Foundation, to secure a contract with the Chinese State Bureau of Cultural Relics.

By declining the services of

the major western auction houses, China has put their noses well and truly out of joint. There are fears in London that a flood of new goods may threaten the equilibrium of a market which has been holding up well during the recession. The antiques on sale date from the 16th century BC to 1795, and include some Imperial items.

Walter van Halder, for the foundation, said: "Christie's did a sale in Peking five years ago and are puzzled why they have not been approached. We have Sotheby's and Christie's on the phone every day." The latter has set up a flourishing branch in Hong Kong, and the Chinese want to establish forceful competition before 1997.

Mr van Halder acknowledged that the Chinese "have enough stuff to destroy the market", but insisted: "They will not do that, having unofficially asked advice from people in the West."

The official reason for the sale, he says, is to curb the current unofficial trade in smuggled goods. "The worldwide demand for Chinese

antiques has been mainly satisfied with smuggled goods. If China offers an official supply of antiques, there will be less incentive for smugglers."

Judging from the glossy brochure, the auction could earn China a great deal of hard currency. The estimated 400 clients who have already paid \$2,500 to travel to Peking can expect a gala dinner in the Great Hall of the People on Tiananmen Square, tourist trips, and "active relaxation" at the Peking golf club.

Each visitor will be given a "special commemorative catalogue" bound in silk and enhanced with "introductions by dignitaries of the Chinese cultural authorities and international diplomatic corps... separately calligraphed in every book by China's foremost calligrapher."

Members of the London art market yesterday either scorned the event or played it down. Sotheby's said they knew nothing about the sale, and one dealer commented that to judge by material photographed in the brochure, "most of it looks like modern rubbish."

One misgiving is the fact that Chinese Communists do not use western criteria when evaluating art. On the grounds that copies are flawless and therefore more valuable, for example, they often prefer to exhibit copies in their museums rather than the real thing.

In reply, organisers promised certificates of authentication as well as export licences for each object. Prices will be in keeping with those in the west by the use of western-style reserves, whereby objects are not sold for less than a reasonable market price.

"The Chinese may look bland, but they are not fools," Mr Van Halder said. "They know exactly what is going on."

Indian summer at the V&A

A display of over 100 Indian paintings and textiles will go on show in the Nehru Gallery at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington on October 7 (John Shaw writes).

It is the first in a series of rotating shows which will enable visitors to see as much of the 35,000-piece Indian collection as possible and allow light-sensitive objects to be rotated periodically.

The collection represents the largest group of art and artefacts outside India covering the period 1550-1900. The gallery, opened by the Queen in 1990, was financed by a £1.75 million appeal with donations from Britain, Europe, Hong Kong and India.

Traces of unknown Iona church found

By KERRY GILL

EXCAVATIONS on the isle of Iona, regarded as the cradle of Christianity in Scotland, have revealed the foundations of a previously unknown church which is believed to be one of the earliest in Scotland.

The discovery, along with that of an earlier Christian cemetery, suggests that the island may have contained a much larger monastic community than archaeologists hitherto believed. It may have amounted to a small town peopled by lay workers and families.

The finds came to light when the modern floor of St Ronan's church was lifted to see what lay below. St Ronan's, an early thirteenth century structure used for parish worship, was abandoned for worship after the Reformation and fell into ruin.

Archaeologists have discovered a much earlier chapel, possibly dating from the eighth century, within the walls of St Ronan's. Two of the walls of the later church were found to have been built directly on top of the chapel. The earlier building, with walls bonded with clay instead of mortar, is similar to Candida Casa, the chapel founded by St Ninian on the isle of Whithorn, in south-west Scotland, which is thought to be Scotland's earliest Christian church.

The Iona discovery is not thought to be as old as

Candida Casa, but is almost certainly the oldest Christian building on the island with features common when early Christian builders were turning from wood to stone. The archaeologists have also expressed excitement at finding an earlier Christian cemetery beneath the chapel with burials probably belonging to the period when the Celtic monasticism founded on Iona by Columba still flourished. The bones are in an advanced state of decay and will be radiocarbon dated by Arizona University. At least one skeletal fragment is thought to be of a female.

Jerry O'Sullivan, of AOC Scotland, an archaeological consultancy involved with the Iona excavations, said workers appeared to have emptied graves to extend the foundations. "That is very interesting because it shows they may not have venerated graves as we do," he said. The significance of the finds, he added, was that the whole scale of Iona may now have to be reviewed. "It was not exclusively a male domain and could have been a monastic town with farmers living around the monastery," said Mr O'Sullivan.

The excavations have taken place some distance from Iona Abbey, which dates back 800 years to the final collapse of the Columban foundation. It fell into ruin, was re-opened in 1912.

Tourists' boots erode Bronze Age mound

By NORMAN HAMMOND

TOURIST erosion in the Brecon Beacons of mid-Wales has removed more than three metres of a Bronze Age burial mound since 1990. Some of the 50,000 walkers who visit the peaks of Corn Du and Pen-y-Fan each year removed stones from the cairns to make comfortable seats, and also stripped most of the stone capping to make their own monument.

"From being a grass-covered mound 16 metres (52ft) in diameter in 1970, over half the Pen-y-Fan mound had completely disappeared by 1990," said Dr Alex Gibson, of the Cwmwd-Powys Archaeological Trust, who has been carrying out rescue excavations. "Since the 1990 survey, over three metres of cairn material has completely disappeared as a result of visitor erosion."

Bronze Age burial mounds, dated to around 2000 BC, stood on both the Corn Du and Pen-y-Fan peaks, which

lie between Merthyr Tydfil and Brecon nearly 2,900 feet above sea level. The latter was dug last year, revealing a central stone cist.

The old ground surface was still green beneath the mound, and cotton grass, bilberry and starmoss were among the species immediately recognisable.

Similar results were obtained this June when the Corn Du cairn was excavated. "The oxygen-free atmosphere of the turf and peat mound ensured that grass, plant and insect remains were preserved so well that they have kept their original colours," Dr Gibson said.

Three quarters of the cairn has now been investigated: the remaining quadrant will be dug in September, before reconstruction of the monument's original form in 1993; the National Trust is already rebuilding the Pen-y-Fan cairn.

Green lung for city

By KERRY GILL

ONE hundred acres of woods, meadows, marshland and ponds on the edge of Edinburgh have been saved from neglect to provide the public with a wild oasis close to the city. To mark 12 years of conservation work, Magnus Magnusson, chairman of Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), will today open a countryside ranger centre at the Cammo estate.

The centre will have facilities for teaching and exhibitions. It will be a base for a countryside ranger, who will provide information for visitors and help maintain the estate. Under the guidance of Roger Wheeler, director of Edinburgh Zoo, the city council, SNH, the National Trust for Scotland and local people have enhanced the attractions of the estate, bounded by busy roads to the south and east, and by Edinburgh airport to the west.

The wildlife corridor was created out of the grounds that surrounded Cammo House. The house no longer exists having burned down during the 1970s. The last owner was Percival Louis Maitland-Tennant, who died a recluse in 1975, leaving the house in an advanced state of decay.

Cammo House, however, was once one of the smartest Scottish houses. During the nineteenth century the estate was redesigned in the Romantic idiom. A wilderness of native species such as oak, ash and holly was planted and, earlier this century, sycamore and poplar were added to create an interesting mix of species.

Romanian orphans appeal

By NICHOLAS WATT

A BRITISH charity will encourage Romanians to take orphans and abandoned children into foster care in a television programme to be screened throughout the country today.

In *For The Children, For Our Children, It's Time to do More*, Romania's leading television personalities say the individual attention provided by the family is the best way to care for the country's 100,000 children in orphanages.

The Romanian Orphanage Trust said yesterday that adoption was not feasible because 92 per cent of children in orphanages were abandoned by their parents who still visited them.

Last year the Romanian government forbade foreigners from adopting Romanian children, a decision supported by the trust. Fiona Nicol, a spokeswoman, said: "The situation had become very sad because Westerners were going over and picking out the brightest and prettiest children. Sick children were left behind and many of the adopted children were sent back when their new parents discovered they were ill. It was like the new dog for Christmas syndrome."

Blue Peter, the television programme, has raised £6m towards the trust's work, though it still needs another £12 million. Ms Nicol said: "We are due to leave Romania by the year 2000. We have 60 Romanians working for us, but from 2000 we want to leave the running of the trust entirely to Romanians."

Guest night

4th Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers (Volunteers)

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel E. Glover, and the Officers of the 4th Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers (Volunteers) held a Regimental Guest Night last night at West Tofts Camp, Norfolk. Major General R.N. Wheeler, CBE, Deputy Colonel of the Regiment was present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All this has been the work of God. He has reconciled us to himself, through Christ, and has enabled us to find in this ministry of reconciliation.

BIRTHS

BREWER - On August 25th, at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Margaret and Dana, a daughter, Natalie.

CHALLINOR - On August 21st, to Jan and Nigel, a son, Benedict.

CLEMENT - On August 13th at Pembury Hospital, Kent, to Rayley (née Milligan) and Nicholas, a son Harry George Oscar, a brother for Jack.

FEATHERBY - On July 20th, to Claire (née Pople) and William, a daughter, Jane Webster, a sister for Francis, Victoria, George, Elizabeth, Margaret, Eleanor, and Jack.

GEDYE - On August 16th, in Bonn, to Rowena (née Sharp) and Chris, a son, Benedict Robin Stephen, a brother for Nella.

GIEDROYG - On August 26th, 1992, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Dorothée (née Jung) and Mike, a daughter, Anna Vikki Margaret.

GRAHAM - On August 25th, to Sarah (née Putman) and Alan, a son.

GRANT - On August 17th in New York, to Elizabeth (née Landau) and Adam, a son, William Douglas, brother for Sophie.

HILL - On August 10th, at the Buchanan Hospital, Hastings, to Claire (née Harrison) and Tony, a son, Joseph Anthony Paul, brother for Emily and Kate.

HILLS - On August 24th, to Liliane and Jonathan, a daughter, Laura.

LAING-KYLE - On August 24th at St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, to Emma and Chris, a daughter, Emily Anne, a sister for Alice.

NEWTON - On August 26th, to Caroline and Adam, a son, William Douglas, brother for Sophie.

PRIDEAUX - On August 17th, to David and Sally, a son, Thomas.

STILMANT - On August 25th, to Rebecca (née Crichton) and William, a son, Harry William, a brother for Kate.

TEALE - On August 25th, to Marie and Ben, a son, Ben.

TEMPER - On August 24th, at Hammergreen Hospital, to Joanne (née Hatch) and Brian, a son, Jake William, a half-brother to Mark and Paul.

WALLIS - On August 19th, at the Rose, Cambridge, to Kim (née Allen) and Anthony, a beautiful son, David James, an eagerly awaited brother for Nancy.

WEST-KNIGHTS - On August 26th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Joanne (née Eco) and Laurie, a daughter, Imogen Amy.

MARRIAGES

SIRVEN-CASLEY - The marriage took place at the Church of St. Michael and St. George, Brighton in Sussex.

WOODWARD-PACKER - The marriage took place between Brian and Cecile on Thursday July 2nd 1992 at Richmond-upon-Thames.

DEATHS

ALLEN - On August 26th 1992, suddenly at home in Mifford-on-Say, Hampshire, John Seymour Allen, F.C.A., much loved husband of Jane, died at 11.45 am. Family flowers only please, but if desired flowers to Oakhams Hospice c/o Diamond & Son, 2-11 Lower Buckland Road, Lymington, SO41 9DN.

BLISS - On Sunday August 23rd 1992, peacefully at home, Alfred Charles aged 89, died at 2.30 pm. Burial at Crematorium on Wednesday September 2nd 1992 at 3.30 pm. No flowers please, donations to Cancer Research c/o C.M. Luff & Partners, 64 St. James' Road, Lymington, Surrey GU27 1JH.

CUNTS - On August 26th, peacefully at home, Commander Robert Curtis, D.S.C., R.N.V.R., dear husband of Elizabeth, father of Susan and Harriette, died at 2.30 pm. Burial at St Thomas' Church, Lymington, on Tuesday September 1st at 2.30 pm. By his wish, family flowers only please, but donations if desired for King George's Fund for Sailors may be sent c/o F.W. House & Son, Funeral Directors, 33-34 St Thomas' Street, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9NE.

FORSTER - On August 26th, at the Alderbury Nursing Home, widow of Robert Forster, died at 11.15 am. Burial at St John's Church, Lymington, on Tuesday September 1st at 2.30 pm. By her wish, family flowers only please, but donations if desired for King George's Fund for Sailors may be sent c/o F.W. House & Son, Funeral Directors, 33-34 St Thomas' Street, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9NE.

GATT - On August 26th, at the Alderbury Nursing Home, widow of Robert Gatt, died at 11.15 am. Burial at St John's Church, Lymington, on Tuesday September 1st at 2.30 pm. By her wish, family flowers only please, but donations if desired for King George's Fund for Sailors may be sent c/o F.W. House & Son, Funeral Directors, 33-34 St Thomas' Street, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9NE.

DEATHS

WALTERS - On August 21st, a few days before her 95th birthday, in Cape Town, South Africa, died at 11.15 am. Burial at 11.15 am. Family flowers only please, but if desired flowers to Oakhams Hospice c/o Diamond & Son, 2-11 Lower Buckland Road, Lymington, Surrey GU27 1JH.

WHITTING - On August 22nd 1992, at her home in 11, St. James' Road, Lymington, died at 11.15 am. Burial at 11.15 am. Family flowers only please, but if desired flowers to Oakhams Hospice c/o Diamond & Son, 2-11 Lower Buckland Road, Lymington, Surrey GU27 1JH.

WINDHAM - On August 21st, very peacefully at home, Mrs. C.B.E. aged 93, died at 11.15 am. Burial at 11.15 am. Family flowers only please, but if desired flowers to Oakhams Hospice c/o Diamond & Son, 2-11 Lower Buckland Road, Lymington, Surrey GU27 1JH.

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OBITUARIES

COLIN HARRIS

Colin Grendon Harris, CMG, secretary-general of the Gold Commission, died on July 21 aged 79. He was born on October 25 1912.

SADLY, Colin Harris died just too soon to finish the job which had been part of his life for almost two decades. But he died knowing that it was virtually complete. The British government announced only last May that it had reached an agreement with Albania over compensation for the Corfu Channel Incident of 1946 when two Royal Navy destroyers went down with the loss of 44 lives after sailing into an Albanian minefield in the Mediterranean. The compromise this year in turn removed Britain's long-standing opposition to returning £10 million worth of Albanian gold seized by the Nazis during the second world war.



Poland in the mid-1970s and Czechoslovakia in the early 1980s were the last two countries to have their claims settled by the Gold Commission, which was established by Britain, the United States and France, under the 1946 Paris Agreement on Reparations, to replenish the plundered vaults of occupied Europe.

land will probably have to be shared out among the original claimants, then the Commission will almost certainly be wound up. It was thought at the time it was established that its brief would probably take several months to complete. In fact it will have worked nearly half a century.

Colin Harris joined the Commission in the middle 1970s, running the administration from an office in the British Embassy in Brussels—the same city where the Inter-Allied Reparations Agency was set up after the war. The commissioners are always the commercial attaches at the British, French and American embassies in Belgium.

Harris was then already in his sixties, having taken early retirement from the diplomatic service some years before. The son of a London bank manager, he was educated at Rossall School and Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he read economics and history.

Joining the foreign service in 1935, he specialised in commercial work and subsequently served throughout the world with postings in San Francisco, Antwerp, the Congo, Lisbon, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Vienna, Tokyo and Oslo — from where he retired in 1969.

He tried to join up several times during the war but he had caught both polio and blackwater fever in the Congo and was turned down. After retiring he lived in Switzerland for five years then moved to Belgium where he was offered the job of running the Gold Commission in Brussels. He was still employed there at the time of his death.

Colin Harris met and married his first wife, a Polish countess, Adelaide Zamojska, while he was serving in the Congo. But she died while they were living in Portugal, leaving him with three young children. While in South America in 1947, he married his second wife, Belgian-born Monique Maucuse-Baudoux, and is survived by her, by their two sons and by a son and a daughter from his first marriage.

ADMIRAL SIR DAVID HALLIFAX

Admiral Sir David (John) Hallifax, KCB, KCVO, KBE, Constable and Governor of Windsor Castle, died on August 23 aged 64. He was born on September 3, 1927.



HOWEVER badly things seemed to be going in the Falklands War, the calm, reassuring voice of David Hallifax was like a breath of fresh air to the hard-pressed commanders of the British Task Force.

As Chief of Staff to Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Hallifax was in day-to-day control of his headquarters. There, in the underground bunker at Northwood, Middlesex, he ensured the smooth running of the joint-service operation which was crucial to the task force's success: 8,000 miles away. No small measure of the ultimate credit should go to him.

To those embattled in the South Atlantic, he also seemed a perfect interlocutor. It was Hallifax whom they usually addressed when they came through on the secure telephone link, and his dry humour was a stimulating tonic.

This laid-back style had always belied an incisive mind. As a young officer on the Royal Navy's torpedo and anti-submarine (TAS) course, he had celebrated its termination prematurely. On the morning after the night before, he arrived late for the final grueling three-hour paper on applied mechanics — and left the examination room half-way through, looking frail and ashen-faced. Nonetheless, when the results came through, his name topped the list.

His very entry to the Navy had been late. Anxious not to limit his options, his naval family had sent him not to Dartmouth but to Winchester. Since he was born in Plymouth, however, the son and the grandson of British admirals, there had never been any serious doubt over his destiny. "It was," as he once put it, "hereditary."

His family had its share of

sadness, however, when his father, a vice-admiral serving in the Middle East during the war, was shot down and killed while flying home on leave over North Africa.

Young David joined the Navy as a special entrant in 1945 and, after a tour as a midshipman in the cruiser *Kent* in the West Indies, served for two years on a minesweeper in the late 1940s, helping to clear mines from the eastern Mediterranean. He commanded a motor torpedo boat in British waters before taking the specialist TAS course in 1954. Two years later he was at Suez serving in the tank landing ship *Sulema* which transport-

ed a Royal Tank Regiment to the canal zone. In 1959 he was sent to the Army staff college at Camberley.

He was back in the Caribbean in the early 1960s, as TAS officer with the second frigate squadron, based on HMS *Whirlwind*. Among his achievements was the formation of a ship's steel band, known as "Jim's Tins" which once performed on the radio in this country.

Hallifax commanded the battle-class destroyer *Agincourt*, 1964-65, captained one of the larger county-class destroyers, HMS *Fife*, in 1973-75, then did a tour at the Ministry of Defence as director of naval operational re-

quirements before becoming flag officer of the first flotilla — a position once held by his father. From there he went to Northwood in 1980.

He left his Chief of Staff job shortly before the final victory at Port Stanley to become Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic in SACLANT's headquarters at Norfolk, Virginia.

After an unusually high profile tour in the United States he returned to the Ministry of Defence where he filled in for 12 months working on a study of ship design at the time of the great controversy over the "short-fat ship" versus the "long thin one". Then, at the start of 1986, he began his final job as commandant of the Royal College of Defence Studies in Belgrave Square.

He left the Navy at the end of 1987 and early the following year was made constable and governor of Windsor Castle, a largely honorary appointment which involves acting as the Queen's representative in and around Windsor. He was the first admiral to be given the post after a succession of retired Army and RAF officers.

Tragedy was shortly to overtake him, however. In July 1989 his younger son Matthew, aged 21, was one of four Edinburgh University students drowned when their dinghy capsized in a squall while crossing at night between two islands off the coast of Donegal. David Hallifax was deeply affected by the loss.

Then last year doctors diagnosed motor neuron disease, which forced him to retire from his post at Windsor earlier this summer. This was not before the Queen personally visited his quarters at Windsor to bestow on him his third knighthood, that of the KCVO.

David Hallifax was an expert sailor who belonged to the Royal Yacht Squadron and had sailed in the Admiral's Cup. He is survived by his wife Anne, whom he married in 1962, and by one son and a daughter.

HIS HONOUR A. E. COX

His Honour Albert Edward Cox, a circuit judge from 1977 to 1989, died at his home at Teillet, France, on August 10 aged 75. He was born on September 26, 1916.

ALBERT Edward Cox, universally known as Bill Cox, was in the group of the first five solicitors appointed recorder after the passing of the Courts Act 1971 and, in 1977, was in the group of the first three solicitors to be appointed circuit judges, the new judges established by that Act.

His sittings as a recorder were in the West Country, but he sat as a judge exclusively in criminal work in central London, at first at Inner London Crown Court and later as one of the permanent judges at Southwark Crown Court, from its opening until his retirement. His courtesy and patience were renowned and his qualities reflected in the lack of success of appeals from his court. They were also attributes that quickly reassured a nervous Bar that regarded the appointment of solicitors to the higher judiciary with considerable misgivings.

Cox, after public school, was articled to his brother in London, being admitted a solicitor in 1938. He was precipitate in joining up at the outbreak of the second world war, reporting to the recruiting office of the London Scottish Regiment. However, his military career and his physique were blighted by the illness spondylitis which marked him for the rest of his life. He was invalided from the Army and joined the well-established practice of Claude Hornby in Great Marlborough Street in London's West End. Claude Hornby had, for years, specialised in criminal work, particularly the more glamorous society cases, and Cox continued the practice after his partner's death in the 1960s. While Cox was responsible for a number of famous defences, including those of George Blake, the Kroeger

spies and Fanny Hill, his main hallmark was the complete discretion with which he regarded the affairs of clients. Not for him the leak or statement to the press, and many in high places who consulted him benefited not only from his astute legal acumen but also from the fact that the public rarely knew that they had fallen foul of the law.

Cox's tall, stooped figure was well known in the central London magistrates' courts, where his modest courtesy masked a shrewd and steely determination and an uncompromising integrity.

His partner, Claude Hornby, founded the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association and for many years Cox acted as secretary, taking over as president in 1967. Ten years later, he became president of the British Academy of Forensic Sciences. His membership of the Parole Board complemented his sittings as a recorder before his full-time appointment to the circuit bench.

Before the war, Cox had been a noted horseman and tennis player, but those pursuits went with his illness. However, he remained a formidable opponent at chess or draughts.

Cox and his second wife, Ailwynne, were generous and gracious hosts both at their London home and, latterly, in France. He is survived by her and a stepson.



ELISABETH CARSON

Elisabeth Carson, contralto and music teacher, died on August 23 aged 100. She was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, on February 10, 1892.

THE life of Elisabeth Carson was split between Britain and her native Germany. She first came to England as a schoolgirl when her father, a wealthy and scholarly Jewish merchant, decided that his daughter should have a "real" education and sent her to Roedean. There she made lifelong friendships and formed a deep affinity with and love for England which was to stand her in good stead 30 years later when forced to leave Nazi Germany.

Her principal music training, back in Germany, was first in piano but the quality of her rich contralto was soon recognised and she was taken as a pupil by the lieder singer, Therese Behr-Schnabel, wife of Artur Schnabel. Her career blossomed and she became an acclaimed interpreter of the songs of Schubert, Schumann, Brahms and Hugo Wolf.

Her most fruitful years were spent first in Frankfurt am Main and then Berlin, where she was married to Alfred Carlebach, a prominent lawyer. Her circle of friends was eclectic and she made the most of the rich cultural life of Berlin in

the years after world war one. Having a close and enduring friendship with Carl Ebert, Fritz Busch and members of the Ulstein family, she had an entrée into the city's cultivated society and became part of the musical and literary scene. At tea with Helene Weigel she was sharp enough to criticise the boorish behaviour of Weigel's husband, Berthold Brecht.

But even with these connections a professional career for a Jewish singer became more and more difficult in the 1930s. She gave her last public recital in 1935. With life in Berlin charged with tension and danger, Elisabeth Carson decided it was time to go.

Leaving her career, her library, many friends and her country, she moved to London in 1937 and began a new and difficult life as a refugee, with few material assets and an ailing marriage. At this time she decided to become a Christian and was baptised by Donald Soper. Later in 1964, on recovering from a grave illness she became a convert to the Roman Catholic faith.

She separated from her husband and during the war settled in a Berkshire village with two friends, likewise cultivated urbanities, and her youngest daughter. With characteristic energy and good humour she began to earn her living — with a little help from the local Labour

Exchange — by teaching. Singing and piano lessons were obvious, but then came eurythmics and later German literature.

The unlikely household, with its multitude of eccentricities, became accepted. No one was too surprised when a broody hen "which needed exercise" was led up and down the village street on the end of a piece of string. Elisabeth Carson formed a choir from enthusiasts in the neighbouring Women's Institutes, was its conductor and helped it win first place, shortly after the war, at a festival of choirs at the Royal Albert Hall.

In spite of several life-threatening illnesses she continued to teach and lecture until well into her eighties. In 1953 she decided to sit her A levels and gave a memorable talk on her beloved Third Programme, as it then was, describing this process. A significant contact was made in the early 1970s with Stanbrook Abbey, a convent with strong musical traditions, where the press was run by Dame Hildelith Cumming, a musician and typographer. This friendship became one of the focal points of Elisabeth Carson's final years and she derived great pleasure from the life and work of the Stanbrook community.

She leaves a son, Andrew, and a daughter Susanna.



LARRY WADE

James Stanley Hilary Wade, MC, TD, FRCS, formerly consultant surgeon at the University Hospital of Wales, died in Cardiff on August 15 aged 76. He was born on February 13, 1916.

LARRY Wade, like his father, was a distinguished Cardiff surgeon, and his introduction to surgery came as a schoolboy when he was able to watch his father operating. After graduating at University College Hospital in 1939, he served as a medical officer at Dunkirk, and later in North Africa

where he earned the Military Cross.

On his return to clinical surgery, he was appointed consultant surgeon to the United Cardiff Hospitals in 1950. During the ensuing years he steadily built a great national and international reputation in thyroid and parathyroid surgery, and was in demand worldwide as a visiting lecturer in this field. Among many other distinctions he was president of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland in 1974.

He is survived by his wife Joan and three sons.

Astronomy

The sky at night in September

By MICHAEL J. HENDRIE, ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY starts September as a -1.2 magnitude morning star and should be visible during the first week low in the eastern sky. On the 1st it rises an hour and a half before sunrise but it draws rapidly in towards the Sun being at superior conjunction on the 15th after which it becomes an evening star.

The planet will pass about two Moon diameters north of the 1st magnitude star Regulus in Leo on the 2nd/3rd. After conjunction it will remain unobservable, low in the western sky, until mid-November when it begins another favourable reappearance in the morning sky.

Venus is a -3.9 evening object but remains low in the west throughout the month, setting less than an hour after the Sun. It will begin to draw away from the Sun during October, setting four hours after the Sun by the end of the year. Over Christmas and the New Year Venus will be a brilliant -4.1 magnitude evening star, lingering in the south-western sky well into the evening.

Mars brightens to 0.5 magnitude during September as it approaches opposition on Jan-

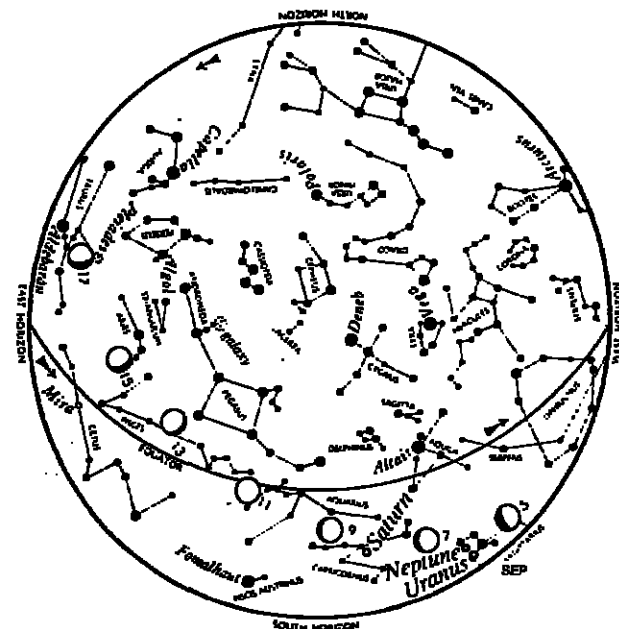
uary 5 1993. Situated in the constellation Gemini it rises by 22h by the 30th. The last quarter Moon passes just to the south on the 20th/21st. Jupiter moves from Leo into Virgo during the month but it will not be observable, being in conjunction with the Sun on the 17th. It then becomes a morning star.

Saturn is in Capricornus, a 0.5 magnitude yellowish-white object located in an area of sky devoid of bright stars, so it is easily identified. Even a small telescope or powerful binoculars will just show the rings and the brightest satellite Titan.

The gibbous Moon passes to the north on the 8th/9th. Saturn passed opposition in early August so it is now an evening star. It reaches a maximum elevation above the southern horizon of about 20 degrees and set by 01h late in the month.

Uranus and Neptune remain close together in Sagittarius, setting by 22h 30m late in the month. Uranus reaches a stationary point on the 23rd, after which they resume their slow eastward motion against the stars. The Moon passes to the north on the 6th.

The Moon: first quarter, 3d 23h; full Moon, 12d 02h; last quarter, 19d 20h; new Moon,



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

26d 11h. The Earth: the Earth's annual motion round the Sun is reflected in the Sun's apparent motion eastwards round the sky, giving us the annual procession of constellations and the seasons. The autumn equinox, when the Sun crosses the equator from north to south, occurs

22d 19h. Sunset on the 1st is at 18h 50m and on the 30th at 17h 40m while sunrise is at 05h 10m and 06h 00m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight ends at 21h 00m early and late in the month and begins against at 03h 00m and 04h 05m.

Also, the eclipsing binary star in Perseus, fades from its usual brightness of 2.1 to 3.4 magnitude every 69 hours. It can be seen when near its faintest this month about the following times: 16d 02h, 18d 23h and 21d 20h.

The full Moon closest to the autumn equinox is called the Harvest Moon, so with the interval between successive full Moons being almost 30 days, it can occur about two weeks before or after the equinox. This can carry the Harvest Moon into October in some years but this year, with full Moon on the 12th, it is in September and the next full Moon in October is the Hunter's Moon.

At this time of the year, the Moon moves northwards throughout the part of the lunation from first quarter to last quarter, so that each night it travels a larger arc above the horizon.

This northwards motion causes the Moon to rise farther round towards the north-east each night after full Moon

and this largely offsets the effect of the general eastwards motion of the Moon which causes it to rise later each evening.

In the late summer and autumn months the Moon, from a day or two before the full to last quarter phases, rises only a little later each evening. This gives rise to a succession of evenings lasting about a week when the Moon hangs low in the eastern sky soon after dark, allowing outdoor activities to continue and giving rise to the terms Harvest and Hunter's Moons.

In the past when outdoor lighting in the countryside was almost non-existent, work outside would have had to stop at dusk and the Harvest Moon must have been of great benefit.

The great developments in artificial lighting have reduced the importance of moonlight over much of the world but at the same time has made it difficult for many to see the night sky at all. It is now being realised that more efficient lighting, directed towards where it is needed rather than wastefully in all directions, will be cheaper to run and should eventually help slow or even reverse the trend towards brighter and brighter night skies.

August 27 ON THIS DAY 1946

The pressure for the extension of a "closed shop" in several areas of industrial life — and even in some professional circles — was much in evidence in the years after the second world war and in this instance the old London Passenger Transport Board decided to fall into line.

"CLOSED SHOP" FOR L.P.T.B. The London Passenger Transport Board has decided not to continue in its service any employees in grades covered by its agreements with the Transport and General Workers' Union who is not a member of that union.

This decision reached after a long meeting yesterday evening between representatives of the board and the general executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union in the grades concerned will have to choose between dismissal and joining the Transport and General Workers' Union. The National Passenger Workers' Union claims to have several thousand members in the employment of the board.

The decision, which brings to an end a dispute which has been going on since 1937, involves a matter of major principle — whether the closed shop should be a part of the policy of public cooperation — and is certain to cause acute controversy. The board has issued a long statement explaining its reasons. The statement says that from 1933 the Board made all its agreements and conducted all negotiations in respect of the operating and maintenance staffs of its road services with the Transport and General Workers' Union, and these agreements applied without exception to each and every employee in the grades concerned. In 1938 the National Passenger Workers' Union was formed, and some of the Board's employees became members of it. The Board did not recognize it, or enter into any agreement with it. The Transport and General Workers' Union, who represent an overwhelming majority of their employees, had now informed them that they would not work with employees who were not members of their union. "The Board," continues the statement, "has decided that the existing unsatisfactory situation which, by seriously hampering the Board in its efforts to provide an efficient transport service, is prejudicial to the public, must be brought to an end. "It is recognized by the general executive council of the Transport and General Workers' Union that it is essential to the fulfilment of the Board's duties to the public that the Board should be able to rely upon the observance of collective agreements and the full cooperation of the staff. "Upon this basis, and on the understanding that an opportunity will be given to all non-members of the Transport and General Workers' Union to join that union, the board have decided not to continue in their service any employee in the grades concerned who is unwilling to join the Transport and General Workers' Union. "It is added that the arrangement whereby certain drivers and conductors have been continued on the payroll, although not allowed to work, will cease. This refers to the incident which gave rise to the present negotiations. About three months ago employees at the New Cross tram depot refused to work with 13 members of the National Passenger Workers' Union who have since continued on the payroll without working. An assurance that the members of the National Passenger Workers' Union will resist the board's decision was given last night by Mr F.E. Snelling, the organizer. A full conference of the union has been called for Thursday to discuss the situation. "If the board insists on its decision," said Mr Snelling, "it will have to dismiss the 4,000 members of our union."



BOOKS p5
Antonia
Fraser on
royal
marriages

LIFE & TIMES

THURSDAY AUGUST 27 1992

APPOINTMENTS
Seven pages
of top
management
jobs



OPENING LINES: the first chapters of some of this autumn's major novels

An innocent at the Booker



In Malcolm Bradbury's
Doctor Criminal, fourth in
our series, young columnist
Francis Jay dons his

shellsuit, laces on his Reeboks and sets off
to cover Britain's foremost literary event

I first met her at the Booker Prize
for Fiction...

As it happened (and most of this did more or less happen), I first met her at the Booker Prize for Fiction. We both turned up at the great autumn prizegiving dinner in the London Guildhall; she was there to tell one kind of story, I was there to tell another. She was an assistant producer on the live television coverage for the BBC's *Late Show*, which for once was going out earlier than usual; I was covering the great event for the *What's Happening* section of the *Sunday* newspaper I worked for — which, since the Booker Prize breakfast fell on a Tuesday, meant that my copy was going out later than usual. And in the event it did not go out at all, for my *Sunday* newspaper, as *Sunday* newspapers seem to have a way of doing, went bankrupt in the interim.

So she was wrapped up in all the modern techniques, the ducts and cabling, the lamps and dollies, the backpacks and betacams, that we need to turn real life into a technological fiction so that we can perceive it as reality again: I had a Biro and a spiral notepad in my pocket. She was red-haired, and clad in low-cut and thigh-tied black, as if she were about to attend some erotic funeral; I, because no one at the *Sunday* had warned me that the Booker is a monkey-suit job, was rigged out in my usual green shellsuit and Reebok trainers — for ours, as you know, is an age of colour. She had arrived at the glittering London Guildhall, and as I was to discover from experience would later also leave it, in a long, low chauffeur-driven contract limousine, I had padlocked my mountain bike to some fine City of London lampost, or other and deposited my cycling helmet in the Guildhall's great downstairs marble-valetted lobby. She was already on duty in the bright glass-walled entrance lobby, hailing the brightest and best of the great and the good as they entered, and asking them to give the cameras a few sprightly words on the likely winning novel. And I, having wheeled an unwilling press-pass from the frosty guard-girls on the hostess desk, was following an ancient rule of my even more ancient profession, and heading through the lobby to the reception salon to get my frosted hands around a warming drink.

So she was media wise, and I was word foolish; and it seemed that nothing in this weird wayward old celestio-system of ours could possibly have destined us to meet. But

meet we somehow did. "You look like a nice upstanding young man," she said, halting me with her clipboard. "Wouldn't you like to have your picture taken for the television?" Now to this day, this very day (and by this I mean the day I sit down to write this, not the day when, with usual readerly lethargy, you sit down to read it, which could be years from now), I can't understand why she took the fatal decision to stop me rather than someone else, why she supposed that the snap opinions of a totally unknown literary journalist (if she even knew that that was what I was) on the year's prize fictions would be worth a groat to the tired evening viewer. Except of course that I can, because I was indeed a nice upstanding young man (and still am, I assure you, to this day, this very day), while most of the brightest and best of the great and the good, who were passing by in their ancient, wine-soaked evening finery, were very definitely not.

No more can I understand why, when asked, I consented. Except of course that I can, for who among us, however wise in other things, is not fool enough to be seduced by a little media attention, or doesn't suppose that by appearing on television our lives will somehow be made more real? I should have known better; but, frankly, there is nothing in this world more erotic than the searching, sucking lens of the television camera, especially when its claims are backed by the lure of a red-haired, low-cut, thigh-tied, smiling female advocate. So she smiled at me brightly, I consented to her warmly, and then she took my hand and led me aside to the camera set-up, tucked away just round the corner. Here she presented me to the presenter, who, like all *Late Show* presenters that year, was henna-haired, female, and heavily pregnant, set me in position before the truculent dark lens of the camera and its truculent dark cameraman, tilted my head, tousled my hair, dabbed an acned spot or two on my face with powder, rearranged my legs a little, and left me to my fate.

Now to this day, this very day, I really cannot imagine why I then went on to say what I then went on to say. Except of course that I can. Because this particular Booker Prize happened to fall right in the hull or dark hollow between the *Entrepreneurial Eighties* and the *Nervous, Nebulous, Nailbiting Nineties*. In the Big World, out there beyond the formal London Guildhall and the new, post-modern financial towers of the City of London, more than forty years of history were daily coming unraveled. The Berlin Wall had only



lately toppled, and was already starting to fetch high prices on the art marketplace (especially if you could find a piece that had actually been signed by Honecker). It was now Bush and not Reagan who presided over the golfcourses and budget deficits of the United States; but on the throne of Britain Margaret Thatcher was still in power, and in the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev still survived, the great architect of the age of glasnost and perestroika. Right across Eastern Europe the statues fell and the busts tumbled, of Lenin and Stalin, Ceausescu and Hoxha, now scrap metal, wasted history. Frontiers opened, half Albania was on the boats, independent republics were declaring themselves, Germany was shaking hands with itself in re-unification, and everyone everywhere was talking about the Great Turn of the world.

So streetwise historians were announcing the End of History, journo like me were noting the Close of the Cold War, politicians everywhere were talking of the New World Order, especially those in the New World. Marxism and the

corinmand economy were plainly dying of terminal exhaustion. On the other hand liberal capitalism wasn't doing so very well either. There was budget crisis in Washington, high-street recession in Britain, the fiscal fitters in Tokyo, and bank fraud all over the place. In Brussels Napoleonic dreamers were reinventing Europe, if they could just find out where its edges started and stopped. There was conflict in Yugoslavia, independence rioting in the Baltics, ethnic and tribal tension everywhere. Over the European fringes, Saddam Hussein (former Takriti street-fighter, and BBC World Service man of the year), thinking it was passing brave to be a king and ride in triumph through Persopolis, had sent a genocidal army to murder, rape and pillage in nearby Kuwait. Meanwhile the millennium was to hand, the polar ice-cap was melting, the ozone layer depleting. There were sexual plagues, floods, droughts, severe famines, earthquakes, outbreaks of boils and mass gatherings of locusts. To a nice upstanding young fellow like myself, in my green shellsuit and Reebok trainers, these were troubling days. They were also my days.

Meanwhile back in British fiction, it was nostalgia time. Nearly all six novels in the Booker shortlist were what, standing there glowing in the eye of the camera, I unwisely chose to call Granny Novels — novels by authors apparently all on the further side of eighty, nearly every one of them tales about adolescent love affairs conducted to a point well short of tumescence under parasols on the beach at Deauville or Le Touquet (or just possibly in a punt on the Cam) in the long lovely summer of 1913. Think of it. Here was I, a young man born just before the year of the moonshot, someone for whom anything before the invention of Word Perfect was retrospectively surprising that I considered these as historical novels — even though their authors, understandably enough given their longevity, insisted they were entirely contemporary. Now I am a New Man, living in Camden (or Islington, as we prefer to call it). Of course I am never guilty of sexism, racism, even ageism, or gerontophobia. I believe the elderly deserve their say, like any other disadvantaged group. But I'm also a citizen of dirt-and-detritus London of the late sad

century, where homeless people sleep in boxes, garbage piles up in the streets, a trip down the London Underground reminds us that life in our failing metropolis increasingly resembles existence in war-torn Beirut, and the world of these novels was really not mine at all.

I'm older now. With the wisdom of hindsight I see I may have spoken a bit too freely, been a smidgen extreme, a mite extravagant, even laid it on a little. I was talking about books I had at best skim-read, at worst digested simply by reading the blurb (to tell the truth, I found time to read some of them properly later, and they pleasantly surprised me). No doubt, as their authors claimed, they were born of the deep wisdom of a full human experience from the red-hot fires of the imagination. I now know it is often the young who are most nostalgic for the past they've yet to acquire, and have a lively instinct for faking history. I have discovered through effort (how much effort you'll see later, if you just read on) that even the lives of the old can be complicated, their response to existence wise, that there are things about history we ought to remember. But imagine

the set-up, try to share it. I was still an innocent, here in front of me was the television camera. And the problem with that is when the camera looks at you you think you are speaking to it, or maybe even to the pretty girl staring at you round the side of it, rather than the wider world beyond. I belong to the age of instant reaction — thinking, eating, emoting on the hoof. It was my on-the-spot opinion TV asked for. It was my on-the-spot opinion TV got.

I chattered. Words like sentimental, parochial, traditional freely passed my lips. After a few sentences the henna-haired presenter cut me, rather curtly, I thought, off. The cameraman checked the tape, the girl in the low-cut dress said "Brilliant" (later on I discovered she said that all the time, about all matters, good or bad). Someone else rolled up with the next victim, who was John Mortimer, or if not he someone of his size, mien, and standing; and I, stupidly glad to have had my moment of media fame, my time in filmic eternity, went on my way to the vast, vaulted reception hall, decked out with fine oil portraits of great London worthies, to gather my just reward in the form of a life-enhancing drink. Here frilly-aproned waitresses stood waiting, as if glad to see me, on the wide stone steps, holding out silver trays laden with the condiments that sauce these great occasions: champagne or its near relative, orange-juice, bottled water, bright gins-and-tonics into which the ice-cap was Antarctica melting. I gathered up two glasses of champagne, one for myself and the other for a companion; after all I belong to that brilliant new generation who thinks that at parties you never know your luck. I would be among writers, who notoriously consider a drinks gathering a prelude to adultery. I pushed my way into the penguin-suited room.

I took a while to realise that I had seriously misjudged the whole occasion. The fact is, at the Booker, the glitterati are not the literati at all. The first person I spoke to said he was Neil Kinnock, and I realised later he was very probably wrong. Perhaps that is why my fascinating chatter about experimental fiction in the post-modern world did not go down very well. Someone else said he was Richard Rogers, whom I probably should have talked to about Post-Modernism, not about filmstars who rode horses. Someone else claimed to be the Governor of the Bank of England; someone else explained that he farmed some of or possibly the whole of the West Country. There were more bankers, businessmen, politicians, ambassadors from various countries where they read books. Although we

Continued on page 5, col 3
Tomorrow: *Sacred Country*
by Rose Tremain

Some questions are unanswerable. I'll grant you that a Bertrand Russell or a Bishop Berkeley can deal with the workaday imponderables, the where-are-we-goings and the what's-it-all-for, but sit René Descartes outside the changing rooms of the separate department in Fenwick's and see him deal with Mrs Descartes when she shuffles off in stocking feet to ask him whether this skirt doesn't make her look well, just a little on the bottomy side, and you'll see just how far Cartesian logic has yet to go.

For these are the questions that truly can never be answered: does this dress make my legs look too stumpy? Is this skirt too short? A simple yes or no is insufficient; a dissertation on legs or bosom or waist but the longer answer, is equally treacherous: "Yes, now I come to think about it, it's funny how that skirt does bring out the essential oak-like quality of your legs". No, I don't mind your dressing like a streetwalker from the wrong end of the Pigalle to

meet great-aunt Betty for the first time.

And yet I never learn. Twenty years ago, when I was just getting into those sort of relationships where an afternoon spent together in Chelsea Girl or Top Shop was considered a reasonable earnest of teenage good faith, I made the mistake of boasting to a girlfriend that I knew about clothes.

Not knew as in knew that trousers were being worn with 194-inch bottoms this week or that burgundy was the month before last's colour, but knew as in differentiating A line from Empire line, or bias binding from overcasting. My mother had been a fashion designer, my grandfather ran one of the better known Piccadilly men's stores. I picked up basic tailoring in the playpen.

More importantly there was an awkward period between the time when I was first allowed to buy my

Help, I'm coming apart at the seams

PRIVATE LIFE: John Diamond on fashion sense and nonsense

own clothes and the time I left home for college when my mother would make a point of going over each new firmy mayfly-spanned fashion garment with her professional eye and listing its shortcomings: the basting stitches left in, the too-skimpy hems, the tenuous held seams. Other 14-year-olds had acne. I had a mother who would schlep me back to Frank's Trouser Bar to demand that the wretched Frank explain how he could even think about taking advantage of her impressionable boy by flogging him a set of strides with no shirgrip on the waistband.

I would have preferred the acne. I think. At least it would have submitted to antibiotics.

But at least I knew enough to bluff about clothes. Other boys would slump on the stool outside



the changing room, a surly glower not quite masking the shame of spending their Saturday afternoon among the racks of frilly polycotton while real men were watching Tottenham win again (which shows how long ago all this was) or sinking pints. Their girlfriends would come out and put them

through the inquisition, and as they were stretched on the rack of "Do you think I ought to try the red again?" and branded with the hot steel of "Perhaps if I try on a different size 12 it might be cut bigger" all they could do was squirm and hope that a grunt might be taken for the right answer. But me, I relished it.

"Of course the fabric's too heavy for the style" I'd say, or "It's that bust dart which is putting the whole thing out", meaningless waffle but at least it did provide an answer more acceptable than "It makes you look like a bag of shopping". And because I learnt to insult the clothes rather than their wearer I got a reputation as a lad who was good to go shopping with. I even began to believe it myself. But inside I was sniggering. Fancy, I

was saying to myself, being so unsure of yourself that you have to spend two hours choosing a pair of jeans; how ridiculous, I smirked, to have to walk in a crouch up and down Doicks holding a mirror at ground level to see how the shoes looked at each state of foot-flex.

But it started happening to me. Last week I was sent to interview a particularly gorgeous French film star. I'd been told that she was a nervous, difficult subject and that she reacted to journalists on an individual basis rather than taking the standard film star line which is that all writers this side of Norman Mailer are scum. I'd watched her movies on tape, prepared my questions carefully, but for once that didn't feel enough. There was still something wrong. "These jeans," I said to my girlfriend. "They don't make me look a bit. You know, stocky do they?"

"You mean short and fat? No, not really."

"What do you mean 'not really'?"

"I mean no, they don't. Put the other ones on though if it worries you."

"The other ones? You mean these do make me look short and fat, don't you?"

And as we went through the jeans and the shirt ("a bit tight across the stomach would you say?") and the jacket ("Does green go with denim?") I could hear myself sexually transmogrified and shuffling out of a hundred women's clothing shops saying "Can I wear this blouse with no jacket and these shoulders?" And I resolved that in future... well what? That I should tell the truth outside the changing room when confronted with something tentlike or sausage-skin tight? That I should lie even more convincingly? No; my resolution is more liberating than either of those: it's 20 years too late, but next time Spurs are at home I'll be spending Saturday afternoon at White Hart Lane. They might even start winning again.

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1992.08.27

Cinema: Geoff Brown on *Juice*, *The Cutting Edge*, *New Directors '92* and *Hitler*—A Film From Germany

Tired of watching them take the rap

I have a dream. I am watching a film by an exciting new black American director. People have jobs, and presentable clothes: the kids go to school, and can talk in long sentences without using four-letter words. Nobody hangs out on corners, does drugs, touts shotguns or robs the convenience store. Instead of listening to rap, house and hip hop, characters savour something classical: Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, for instance.

The reality is different. I am watching *Juice* (MGM Tropicana, Electric Cinema, Ritz, 15), the first film directed by Ernest R. Dickerson. Spike Lee's regular cinematographer. For its genre, this is a superior film. The Harlem youths are well portrayed; the rap sounds could get the oldest bones shaking. And it all comes wrapped in a movie violence that is not the smart way to escape the ghetto.

'Black American experience stretches way beyond violence on dismal streets'

At first Q. Raheem, Steel and Bishop—the four lead characters—commit minor offences. They ignore school; they shoplift; in an exhilarating sequence they give cops the slip, along alleys, through houses, across roofs. Trouble starts when they catch *White Heat* on television, and see Jimmy Cagney cry "Made it, mal Top of the world!" before he goes up in flames. Impressed by this grand exit, Bishop goads the others into armed robbery of a grocery store.

From this, all evil flows. The store owner is shot dead. Bishop (played by Tupac Shakur, from the group Digital Underground) spins out of control, and turns his gun on his friends. "You got the juice now, man!" the gang's lone survivor is told at the end; but a freeze frame of his shaking head makes it clear that the "juice" (slang for power and status) has turned sour.

Bishop's descent into a crazed killer starts strangely with the realistic approach of earlier scenes, and smacks of commercial compromise. But the fresh-faced cast rise to the challenge. Omar Epps proves par-

ticularly effective as Q, the group's conscience, an aspiring disc jockey who at least gets as far as opening his school locker. Dickerson drives the story forward even when its logic falters, and keeps the visual texture as rich as the dingy settings allow.

Now we need these talented black directors—the Dickersons, Lees and John Singleton—to escape their own urban ghetto for the black American experience stretches way beyond guns and violence on dismal streets. By dishing out more of the same in film after film Hollywood's black talent stunt their own growth. They also run the risk of fanning fires that need no encouragement. When *Juice* opened in Los Angeles this January, one person died in gang incidents.

Such violence at screenings of *The Cutting Edge* (MGM Haymarket, PG) is most unlikely, unless the audience fights for the exit. Those who like bathing in screen clichés may stay put: this ice-skating tale rounds them up with great diligence. Moira Kelly (a bright newcomer, seen in *Billy Bathgate*) is the ice queen Kate, a tempestuous brat in need of a partner who can stay the course. Enter D.R. Sweeney, a bumptious hockey player who loses his peripheral vision and reluctantly tries a new line of work. The pair fight endlessly; they fall in love; they also enter the 1992 Winter Olympics in France.

Clearly, there is a lot here to swallow. Director Paul Michael Glaser—once one-half of *Starsky and Hutch*—keeps the cameras swivelling at high speed, but still cannot hide the fake shots of skating stand-ins. (Robin Cousins served as technical adviser and choreographer.) We must also accept that a beefy figure-skating novice can reach Olympic standards of skill and elegance in just a few months.

Still, there are crumbs of comfort. Kelly and Sweeney perform their daffy charade with spirit; and Roy Dotrice, with contorted grammar and a juicy accent, is Anton



Before he himself spins out of control: Bishop (Tupac Shakur, centre) faces the threat of violence on the street in *Juice*

Parmchenko, legendary coach from the Ukraine. "Always iss komink ze big B—vot a bitch!" he cries, pondering his star pupil's misdemeanours. You have to smile.

Now I have another dream. I am watching a selection of shorts by new film-makers, sponsored by the British Film Institute. There are no oppressed racial or sexual groups; nobody mooches on a seashore or suffers tower-block angst. The directors are bursting with a sheer love of cinema, and their scale of reference stretches back into history, far beyond Derek Jarman. Spike Lee and scratch

video. They know what a good film is, even if they cannot quite make one themselves.

I wake up. I am watching *New Directors '92* (Metro, for one week), the fourth annual showcase of six new shorts, all made for £30,000 or less. One at least breaks clear of the rut: Mark Nash's haunting *Between Two Worlds*. Nash teaches film and has written a book on Carl Dreyer, one of cinema's most ascetic directors. Unsurprisingly, there is no camera frenzy. The crisp, quiet images, delicately interwoven with home movie footage, take us to the heart of the matter: the strange emotional bond between a homosexual and his Czech émigré analyst.

The other bright spot is *Capoeira Quickstep*. Gillian Lacey and Roberto Mader's entertaining blend of fiction and documentary whisks us through the history of the Brazilian dance—first developed by African slaves brought to Brazil by the Portuguese, and now undergoing mutation in Britain.

Elsewhere, the going is tough. Danny Thompson's black comedy *Public Enemy/Private Friends*, while lively enough, lacks all visual sense. Sonali Fernando's tower-block tale *Shakti* can at least be marked down as a brave failure, but Cheryl Farthing's lesbian reverie *Rosebud* is abominably arch. When short films disappoint, why

not try something long? Hans Jürgen Syberberg's *Hitler—A Film From Germany*, completed in 1977, lasts seven hours and 17 minutes. The Edinburgh Film Festival got through this rarely screened epic on Tuesday; on September 4, the ICA Cinema brings it to London for two weeks. Syberberg shoots in his tableau style: the camera immobile, the actors in the studio before projected backgrounds and archive footage. Through vignettes and monologues packaged into 22 "chapters", Syberberg delves deep into Hitler's grip on the world's psyche. No soft option, for sure, the film demands attention, and has no equal in cinema history.

ARTS BRIEF

Cardiff calling

ATTENTION may be focused on the Scottish capital this month, but come September 17 the Welsh capital weighs in with a festival that could give Edinburgh a run for its money. The three-week Cardiff Festival will combine concerts, theatre productions and art exhibitions. Welsh National Opera's new productions—including *Elektra* and *Tosca*—are to play alongside Music Theatre Wales's world premiere of a new opera, *Ubu*, composed by Andrew Toovey. The festival will host several foreign orchestras: the Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Budapest Symphony and, on a first visit to Britain, the Belgrade String Orchestra. German Voices, a collection of German theatrical talent, will feature the Cologne-based dance theatre company Leibliches Theater. Literary events include readings by Benjamin Zephaniah and a science fiction convention.

New broad

BROADWAY gets an unlikely opening on October 29 when London's long-running thriller, *The Woman in Black*, has its premiere at the Music Box Theatre. Aside from rare exceptions such as *Slush*, thrillers traditionally fare badly in New York. The Music Box's previous tenant was also British: a production of Alan Ayckbourn's play, *A Small Family Business*, which closed prematurely.

Last chance...

JUST when ideas for political plays were thinning, the Berlin Wall came down and opened up new territory for dramatists. Roy MacGregor's *Phoenix* is one of the better results, bringing a former terrorist back from East Germany to meet her jazz trumpet father and joining her story with that of a former colleague turned respectable. The pace and acting generate real excitement in this production, which closes on Saturday at the Bush (081-743 3388).

GALLERIES: CHELTENHAM

Cotswolds echoes of a crafty generation

John Russell Taylor on a show celebrating local figures in the Arts and Crafts movement at the beginning of this century

During the early Eighties there was a classic series of shows in Birmingham concerning the major figures of the local Arts and Crafts movement, people such as Southall and the Gaskins, none of whom had been up to that time properly documented or evaluated. A change of location for George Breeze, now chief art gallery and museums officer in Cheltenham, seemed to bring the Birmingham series to an end, but happily started another series, concerned with the Cotswold hothed of Arts and Crafts geographically and emotionally close to Cheltenham.

The first of these was devoted to C.R. Ashbee, and the effects of his transplanting his Guild of Handicraft from the east end of London to Chipping Campden. The new show, rejoicing in the wonderfully period title *Good Workmanship with Happy Thought*, concerns the work of two lesser lights, Alfred and Louise Powell. The Cotswold connection with Alfred is admittedly tenuous: he was early on in the same architect's office as Ernest Gimson and Ernest Barnsley, both subse-

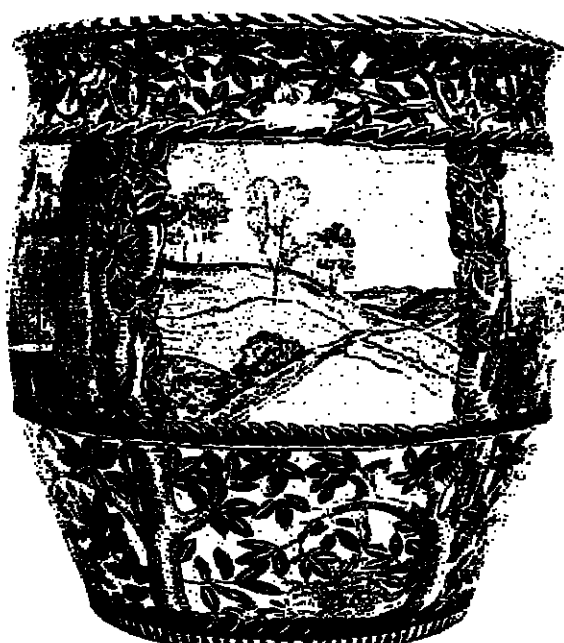
quently important figures in the heyday of Cotswold Arts and Crafts furniture, and one of his brothers subsequently worked with Barnsley (while another studied bookbinding under Douglas Cockerell). From 1901 the Powells worked in the area after building themselves a house at Tunley, in particular turning their talents to painting furniture by Gimson, Barnsley and others.

All these craftsmen subscribed to the same sort of uplifting moral view of craftsmanship, and were tightly bound together, whichever guild they belonged to, by close links of friendship and marriage. In a sense the Powells carried this Morris-derived ethos a stage further, in that they did not share some of the more fanatical craftsmen's blanket disapproval of industry.

Alfred continued to practice architecture, in a very craftsmanlike way, feeling that he had to be able to do all the individual handicraft jobs himself and function as master-of-works. But Louise (originally Lessore, and sister of Sicker's wife) had trained in calligraphy, under Edward

Johnston, and in embroidery. Her grandest work was the completion of Morris's calligraphy for his own illuminated manuscript of the *Aeneid*, left unfinished at his death. And naturally with this background she was more open to the idea of decoration for pottery than perhaps her husband was. Even for commercially produced pottery.

Admittedly Wedgwood was widely regarded as a special case, an industry run along properly art-conscious lines. And what the Powells were able to do, from 1904 on, was to reintroduce the idea of hand-painting in the Pottery, where for some time it had been widely dismissed in favour of transfer printing and modern technology. Alfred was approached through W.R. Lethaby at the Central School; Wedgwood wanted someone who could design in the then fashionable Art Nouveau style, of which Lethaby strongly disapproved. But after a reassuring visit to Eturia Alfred was recommended, and before long both the Powells were working on pottery design and decoration. Alfred, indeed, was still painting



Strongly personal: plant pot by Alfred Powell, 1927

ing pots when 90 years old. Much of this show is devoted to their ceramic work, for Wedgwood and others, which is strongly personal and so independent of current fashions and fads that it would be very difficult indeed to date. There is also one particularly splendid example of their furniture-painting, an ebony and painted cabinet of c.1925 painted by Louise; some documentation of Alfred's architectural work, including a perspective rendering by him of an astonishing competition design by Gimson for, apparently, the whole of Canberra; and many odds and ends of

the metalwork, calligraphy and such which were a normal part of the all-round craftsman's repertoire. Some of it is routine, though with more than its complement of period charm. But the ceramic work is remarkable for what it represents in the marriage of craft and industry, as well as on its own account just as design. It is good to have another piece of the great Arts and Crafts jigsaw puzzle so devotedly filled in.

Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (0242 250019) Mon-Sat 10am-5.20pm, Sun 2-5.20pm, until September 5

PROMS PREVIEW

Setting a table in perfect taste

Simon Tait meets Tafelmusik, a Canadian group in Europe for a tour including a Prom

music has been under the leadership of Jeanne Lamon, the first violin who doubles as musical director, since 1981; Lamon took over after a gentle push by the board, taking control from the founders. Lamon, along with managing director Otis Lockey, have brought Tafelmusik to a prominence rare for a North American chamber orchestra. Between them, and through Tafelmusik's beguiling performances at its base, Trinity St Paul's United Church in Toronto—which has a fine acoustic but still has to be cleared for Sunday services—Lamon and Lockey have so far won two successive contracts with Sony Classical. And recording plans are going far beyond the end of the current one in 1994.

The secret has been having a core of players who play for no other baroque group, so that we are probably the only

early music ensemble which has a recognisable sound of its own," says Lamon. "There are seven or eight musicians who have been with us as long as I have. We also rehearse hard and are not afraid to strain musicians' egos to get something right."

There are rumours that Sony wants Tafelmusik to record all the Haydn symphonies. They have already released six CDs of Mozart, Gluck, Geminiani and four flute concertos, with one of Vivaldi and two of Haydn to come in October. The recording session after the Prom is to

be of Boccherini and the four Mozart horn concertos with the Dutch horn player Ab Koster. The partnership with Sony has also meant another unusual element for a chamber orchestra, a principal guest conductor, who is Bruno Weil. Tafelmusik's success is in contrast to the fortunes of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The TSO has no recording contract, no tours planned and debts of \$3.7 million. It has only just avoided bankruptcy and closure thanks largely to its new managing director, Max Tapper, who got the 120 players to agree to a 15-per cent pay reduction in a three-year deal.

Tafelmusik believes the contrast in their fortunes reflects changes in audience taste. "Like publishing, where 20 years ago everybody in North America subscribed to *Life* magazine and now there are 100 magazines covering the

area, the public is not satisfied with one large symphony orchestra's repertoire," says Lamon. "It wants specialists, and to be able to turn to an ensemble like ours."

Lockey adds: "Our audience has to be fed it has access to us, and there can be something forbidding about a very large symphony orchestra. We have a core of 16 players and we can expand to as many as we like if we need to, so that we have a flexibility to adapt to any requirement and that's part of the secret of our success." Tuesday's programme has Handel, Elber, Telemann, Vivaldi and Boccherini in it, not a typical Tafelmusik concert. "John Drummond, the director of the Proms, wanted a sampler from us, so it's a bit of a mish-mash," Lamon says. "He specifically didn't want Boccherini, but since we're recording it this time we've got it in anyway. For us, the Prom is the high point of what we've done so far."

Tafelmusik is at the Albert Hall 071-823 9998, Tuesday, 10pm.

TELEVISION REVIEW

Neither gone nor forgotten

The function of the television "mini-series" is still a bit of a mystery to me. Why does downmarket television drama have to be digested on consecutive nights? Is it something to do with the obscure science of advertising and target audiences?

Or is it because the average viewer is now considered too impatient to stay the majestic eight-week course of an *I, Claudius* or *Brideshead Revisited*? I think we should be told.

Perhaps the secret agenda of the mini-series is to replace the novel as an imaginative experience, to be consumed at two or three sittings in the comfort of your own home. This week's 1920s courtroom drama *Cross of Fire* (BBC 1, Tuesday and last night) seemed to be muscling in on the territory of E.L. Doctorow's historical novels, which have explored the culture, racism and disorder of ragtime America to brilliant effect. Not surprisingly, the mini-series suffered by comparison.

If nothing else, the murder trial of Ku Klux Klan leader D.C. Stephenson, tipped as presidential candidate for 1928 before his spectacular fall from grace, was a compelling subject matter, a strange insight into a time when the Democratic Party was a KKK stronghold.

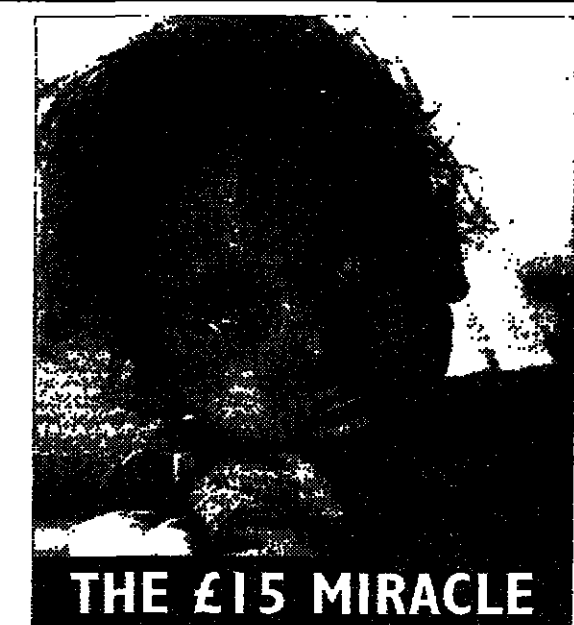
In those days, the Klan was trying to shed its redneck image. The idea was to sell itself as benign protector of "intensified Americanism", funding welfare services and schools, rather than as the old-fashioned oppressor of blacks, dashing about the night in pointy-headed costumes.

The rich and charismatic Stephenson was the lynchpin of the transformation, bringing the Klan to the brink of respectability and raising its membership to six million. But, by a macabre twist of fate, the world was spared the odium of a Ku Klux Klan president by Stephenson's murder of Madge Oberholzer, a liberal teacher who had rejected his sexual advances. Disowned even by his own lynch-mobs, he served 31 years in jail, before being sent down again for assaulting a 16-year-old.

In spite of some well-chosen newsreel footage showing thousands of Klansmen marching on Washington in their robes, *Cross of Fire* never quite pulled it off. Stephenson, promoted to Grand Dragon, became suitably wild-eyed and boozey as plot thickened and evil rose implacably to the surface.

But there was little sense of the Klan's true menace, even in the courtroom scenes in which wily old Lloyd Bridges for the defence battled it out with the late Madge's wimpish boyfriend, a youthful prosecuting attorney desperate to prove himself. It all seemed a bit breezy: was the court supposed to be settling the future of America or just a "domestic" turned nasty? What was lacking in this dozy melodrama was a sense of historic immediacy. Look how bad America used to be, it said. Yet the Klan's formula of religious fundamentalism, bigotry and populist politics is still a shamelessly successful one, which—as former grand wizard David Duke's bid for the governorship of Louisiana last year showed—continues to haunt the mainstream. Purple robes, burning crosses and reptilian tales may belong to the realm of the absurd; but talk of Christian "family values" and white versus black remains common coin in modern American politics.

MATTHEW D'ANCONA



THE £15 MIRACLE

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Legends, image and icons

As France considers European unity, Charles Bremner reviews the country's love/hate affair with America in the last of our summer celebration of France



FROM HIS Cole Hahn shoes to his cowlick hair wave, Yves Loiseau, a young banker, looks like a cross between James Dean and a Ralph Lauren advert as he slots the key into his black Harley Davidson on the Boulevard Saint Germain. The tell-tale explosions of the Harley attract envious glances from a gaggle of people sitting nearby at the café Flor. "Cool," exclaims a young woman. "Five-oh-ones," says her companion knowledgeably. The classic 501 Levi has been compulsory wear for the past couple of years for the casually correct of the Continent.

Watching that scene shortly after moving to Paris from New York last month hammered home the feeling that I had passed through a looking-glass into a surreal version of America, a land obsessed with imitating its icons and images yet possessing little in common. America may view itself as an atrophying giant collapsing into economic malaise and racial

The Socialist Party has covered France with pro-Maastricht posters showing Uncle Sam sitting on top of the world

strife, but for the French it still serves as the source of legend and dreams. Its power, freedom and violence also clearly terrify the French who, more than any Western country, seem to see l'Amérique as the source of extreme bounty and also of evil. When Jacques Brel sang his French hit "Madelaine", the highest praise to the girl was to call her "Mon Amérique à Moi" (my very own America). If you want to put down something as far from wonderful, you still say: "Ce n'est pas l'Amérique."

The love affair between Paris and the Anglo-Saxons of the New World has been going on for well over two centuries, ever since heavy French aid helped the American colonists beat the British army and the founding fathers took their constitutional ideas of separation of power from Charles-Louis Montesquieu. The reverence has never been stronger than in 1992, the year in which Jack Lang, the socialist culture minister who waged war a decade ago against the "cultural imperialism" of Dallas, invested Sylvester Stallone with the Légion d'honneur.

Mr Lang's enthusiasm for American culture also includes rap music and the graffiti which has erupted all over the Métro as it did in New York in the 1970s. The minister and his intellectual friends still look down their noses at Disneyland and the American soap operas such as *Santa Barbara*, the number one French television drama, but they keep up with every pop trend in their favourite newspapers. *Le Monde*, for example, devoted a front-page eulogy to Prince the other day, the same way as almost every newspaper devoted front page critiques to the high art of *Batman Returns*.

America is everywhere in Paris, from the Tex-Mex restaurants to les frozen yoghurts and le popcorn in the



An American in Paris: the mutual admiration society between the French and Americans has been going on for more than two centuries

supermarkets to the Far Western boutiques and the Shaker furniture of the big department stores.

Turn on the radio and you will hear endless learned discussion of such things as the history of the *bluejean*. What film do French university students most admire this year? *Basic Instinct*, according to a recent poll.

The French fascination with America is driven by distance. The mentality and language are so far removed from the American that inconvenient realities are lost in translation or simply filtered out.

Some differences are obvious, such as the stiff formality compared with the breezy friendliness of Americans. Daily life is a fight with bureaucratic obstruction after the can-do consumer culture of America, but it is also far slower and gentler. France is unaffected by the defensive political correctness which has invaded American life. After American hypersensitivity to gender, French men's condescending treatment of women is surprising, as are all the young people you see smoking.

The America that France imagines has only a passing resemblance to the country once colonised by France on the other side of the Atlantic. But the real United States are far enough away to allow the French to cherish a dream. The "jeunes blacks" with their graffiti cans in the Métro and the "rappeurs" beloved of the *haute couture* shows, are a gentle and elegant bunch, bearing about the same relation to the menacing US article as Johnny Hallyday has to real rock'n'roll.

Ask any Frenchman who really knows America. Michel Serres, a

university professor who taught for many years in America, says he is alarmed by the way the French media and government figures "cultivate and exalt the image of America which has nothing to do with the country where I have been working for a quarter of a century. This image serves as a paradigmatic reference to enable them to pretend to indulge that so strange and devastating French passion: putting down their own country."

Analysing the obsession has become something of a cottage industry, with the opening of Euro Disney, the collapse of communism and a diplomatic spat between Washington and Paris mainly over trade and European defence.

Bernard Pivot, the journalist who long presided over *Apostrophes*, the hugely popular literary programme, says France reverses a "nostalgic, creative, funny, musical" America. "France has created its own false culture that is more American than the real one," he said recently. This was just like the way, in 18th century Europe, admiring foreign countries tried to be more French than the French.

For the vision of what young France sees in America you have to go to the Trading Post, the flagship store of Charles Cheignon, the French company which has made millions by plundering the uniforms and styles of post-war America and caricaturing them for a line of false retro fashions.

Cheignon's aviator jackets and leathersuits hark back to a never-was America of heroes, baseball and

juke-boxes, the effect only slightly marred by stage-sounding authentic lettering such as "The top people prefer Cheignon, makes this legendary known."

Guy Arzouly, the young designer who invented Cheignon, told the *Washington Post* that he appreciated America more than Americans. "The force of the American heritage is in these years—you don't understand it. I don't know why." In case that is not clear, he explained the attraction to a French magazine last month saying in French: "C'est une world community. Les Jeunes veulent avoir le truc (thing) 'be cool', le cote 'fresh and juicy'."

Of course the mythology works just as easily in reverse. America is still demonised by many in France in a way that seems positively nostalgic for the days when Marxist intellectuals and Gaullist businessmen could blame the Yanks for everything.

The ruling Socialist Party, for example, reaching back to all those old Left Bank views of Yankee power has covered France with pro-Maastricht posters this month which show a caricature of Uncle Sam sitting on top of the world with a Japanese villain. Only by voting yes in the Maastricht referendum next month, will France be able to combat the American trade ogre, says the message. The American Embassy has already complained. President Mitterrand virtually defines himself by his haughty disdain for America and everything it is about, an attitude that has not prevented him falling in behind Washington every time it has counted, such as the Gulf war.

Nothing could better demonstrate the paradoxical attitude than those

quotas, unique in Europe, which oblige French television and radio to keep non-European, in other words US, material below a tight minimum. The TF-1 network was fined £3.3 million by the state broadcasting authority this month for breaking the quota.

For all the apparent love of America, sociologists in France are discovering what those in other countries have also been noting: that the aping of American fashions, the love of Hollywood and pop culture does not translate into a desire to be American, but rather the opposite. A recent survey of teenagers, for example, showed they believed the real America to be a dangerous place full of drugs and poor, an image delivered by the TV news. The failure of Euro Disney to attract enough French visitors has illustrated, if nothing else, the ambivalence that many feel when confronted with what might be called "real" America.

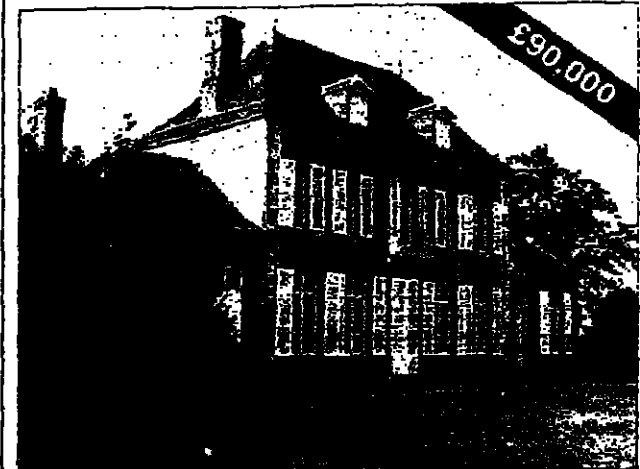
And among the middle and upper French classes, you still hear the old sense of superiority to what is believed to be the naivety of "les Amérloques". America is just "too simple" for the French, *L'Express* magazine said the other day, in all seriousness. The French, a sceptical old culture, are "totally amazed by people who wave little flags, invoke the Lord's name and summarise the history of the world as a struggle between the devil and the Lord."

The feeling is well reciprocated on the other side. Americans, easily intimidated by French attitude, are quick to praise them as charming and stylish, but they regularly rate them near the bottom for friendliness and hospitality.

Ready to move into

FRANCE

WHAT YOU CAN GET FOR
£90,000-£103,000



This renovated 19th century manor house in six acres of park and woodland, at the edge of a pretty village, nearby the River Somme, in Picardy, is a bargain at £90,000 (including agency fees). It is 30 minutes drive from the city of Amiens, an hour from EuroDisney and within easy reach of Boulogne.

The property is in good condition, with new plumbing and wiring, but needs some redecoration. It has two large reception rooms with marble fireplaces and oak-panelled walls, fitted kitchen and laundry room, a breakfast room with Italian tiled floor, as well as a games room, playroom, study and bathroom on the ground floor. There are five bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs; a large convertible attic above and wine cellars below; plus several outbuildings, a garage and a large barn. UK agent: Barbers, 427-429 North End Road, Fulham, London SW6 (071-381 0112).



Also on offer at £90,000 (excluding notary fees) is this restored "Charentaise" house, with a courtyard and an acre of garden, set amid vineyards, in Cognac country, near the village of Rouillac, a few miles north east of Angoulême in the Charente. Caen (Quisreham) is about five hours drive away.

The old stone-built farmhouse has been sympathetically restored by a couple of English artists, retaining many original features, including flagstone and oak floors, huge fireplaces, exposed beams and internal stonework. It has three reception rooms, a study, modernised kitchen and cloakroom at ground level, five bedrooms and two bathrooms on the first floor; plus wine cellars. The price includes an attached barn, an artist's studio and several outbuildings, with potential for four or five gites. UK agent: French Property Shop, Wadhurst Road, Mark Cross, East Sussex (0892 852449).



Further south, under Mediterranean skies, this "maison de maître", between Castelnau and Villefranche-de-Lauragais in the Aude Valley, is for sale at £103,000 (including agency and notary fees), through agents Sifex, Phoenix House, 86 Fulham High Street, London SW6 (071-384 1200).

Set in an acre of lawn garden, surrounded by rolling hills, it is situated near the little village of Salles-sur-l'Hers, where there is a large lake and a beach. The airport at Toulouse is 45 minutes drive away, and Narbonne can be reached in an hour.

The old character building has been restored inside and out. It has a large entrance hall, three reception rooms with french windows leading to the garden, a kitchen with wood-burning stove and a wine cellar. A wide sweeping wooden staircase leads to the first floor, with three bedrooms, a Victorian-style bathroom and two rooms which would convert to extra bedrooms. Traditional features include exposed stone walls, open fireplaces, beamed ceilings and terracotta-tiled floors. There is also a self-contained two bedroomed apartment, stables and barn.

CHERYL TAYLOR

ESSENTIAL FRENCH: LA PUB

Punchlines for sale

France has always been a great trading nation. They can supply almost any demand. And even if you aren't demanding anything, they will go ahead and supply anyway — hence 1066 and Napoleon.

More subtle persuaders can be found in la pub, which is nothing to do with drinking, but only the intoxication of publicity, or advertising. France may be good at making wine, cheese, cars and books, but it is even better at making up seductive images to sell them with.

At the height of the oil famine, the nation consoled itself with the motto, *En France on a pas de pétrole, mais on a des idées* ("In France we have no oil, but we do have ideas"). Now you would say, "On a des concepts", the word concept having become synonymous with "product".

The thinking behind all advertising is summed up in an ad for Elf: *C'est quoi le pétrole? C'est tout sauf le pétrole* ("What is oil? It's everything but oil"). The key to effective copy is to sell not just a commodity but a story, a mythology that the customer can buy into, thus the best

slogans are condensed novels. Conversely, successful novels are long-winded slogans.

Stereotypes
Vous qui enviez tant celles des Brésiliennes, les plus belles fesses du monde, des fesses de rêve ne passez plus votre été à vous lamenter en vain. "You who envy so much of Brazilian women, the most beautiful buttocks in the world, dream buttocks, need no longer spend your summer in vain lament!" (Up Lift Fessiers).

Britain at least has its traditions to fall back on: the Rover 800 "renoue avec la grande tradition de la calandre — harks back to the great tradition of the radiator grille."

Imperatives
Hautes les seins! — Breasts up!

(on the model of *Hautes les mains!* — Hands up, usually delivered by bank robbers). *Plat le ventre!* — Tummy flat! *Sculptées les hanches!* — Hips sculpted!

Neologisms
Verbs: Rowentez-vous la vie — Let Rowenta into your life. *Adjectives: C'est tellement Orangina* — That is so Orangina! *Quand on est bière, on est très Mutzig* — When you are beer, you are very Mutzig.

Paradoxes
Même mouillés, ils sont secs — Even when they're wet, they're dry (Ultra Pampers). *Quand y'en a plus, y'en a encore* — When there's none left, there's still more. (Palmolive).

Puns
Ca c'est très Ford — Plays on *Ca c'est très fort*. That's very good. *Pompes funèbres municipales, on n'en revient pas* — Municipal funerals, you'll never get over it! You never come back from them.

Rhyme and assonance
Kenzo, ça sent beau — Kenzo smells beautiful. *L'été de tous les thés* — The summer of all teas. *Votre dodo c'est mon dada* — Your bye-byes is my hobby horse (Monsieur Meuble).

Numerology
Le Cinq (Renault) has been supreme for so long that other numbers are up against it. *Sacré 205, j'aime ton numéro!* (Peugeot) — Holy 205, I love your number — is a valiant attempt to fight back.

Theology
Et Kenzo crée l'homme — And Kenzo creates man. *Dieu a besoin des hommes, mais les hommes ont besoin du Bob slip* — God has need of men, but men have need of Bob Slip underpants.

ANDY MARTIN

No need to dress out here

WHEN IN FRANCE

No one could say that our patch of France is dress conscious. The typical gear for a Gascon further is an open-necked shirt of uncertain vintage, spacious trousers bunched round the waist and hard-cap boots with rivet studs. And this is for an evening out. The women wear shades of black or grey. Working clothes are blue jeans and sweatshirts, for both sexes.

The English soon fall into the routine, divesting themselves of socks and ties and other sartorial impediments to settle for the beachcomber style of casual wear. If they don't merge entirely into the background it is because the men have an urge to wear shorts, invariably affording huge mirth to the French who rarely reveal their lower limbs. The Dutch, the only nationality to outpace the English in their eagerness to set up home in Gascony, share the tendency to display the knees but they wear shorts with a crease. The Dutch are the only people here ever to iron their clothes.

Every now and then a besuited Frenchman appears. The last one to enter our lives came to sell us a fax machine. We could tell immediately he was from a big town, Bordeaux or Toulouse, by the delicate way he stepped from his car to avoid the puddle caused by a recent downpour.

His lightly-checked jacket and dark tie, closely knotted, was set off by a shirt of pristine white. Clearly he was a man of authority. We bought the instrument he recommended without asking the price.

Our fax salesman was a reminder of the amazing switch in style from rural to urban Gascony. Bordeaux and Toulouse are just an hour and a bit from here by motor route. They could be a thousand miles away for all the

affinity they have with their surrounding countryside.

The first time I went to Toulouse I didn't think to dress up for the occasion. It was not long before I realised the enormity of my *faux pas*. The long looks of derision from passers-by said it all.

'City types do not really like foreigners'

City style is, somewhat surprisingly, much influenced by British fashion. Marks & Spencer, Burton and Body Shop occupy prime sites. Linguistic ambiguities are rare. There is a sportswear shop, one of a chain, which calls itself Athlete's Foot.

The country Gascons are deeply attached to a way of life that can be frustratingly anarchic. It is only ten years since they gave up using oxen to do heavy work on farms. And, on the domestic front, it is still

rare to find a kitchen that boasts an electric kettle. But these traditionalists are also enormously tolerant, accepting with calm assurance a wide and weird variety of newcomers into their midst.

For all their cosmopolitan airs, the city types don't really like foreigners. It shows up most obviously in their impatience with anyone who speaks less than perfect French. Service in shops and restaurants is fast and efficient but administered with a cutting edge. After a splendid meal in a Toulouse restaurant I complimented the *maître d'hôtel* with, "Nous avons mangé bien."

He shook his head. "Non, monsieur. Nous avons bien mangé." Maybe I should have been grateful for the tuition. Instead, I thought, hang on, who's paying this bill?

The urban French are happiest in their own company which is why they stay at home and leave yokels to our own plebeian devices.

BARRY TURNER

150

Let us be wed till greed us do part

Before 1753 matrimony was a lottery, as Antonia Fraser learns from the courts which sought to reconcile husbands and wives

John Aubrey, in a felicitous comparison, once likened the historian's craft to "the art of the conjuror". This is because his object is not only to retrieve "forgotten things from oblivion", but also to make "those walk and appear that have been in their graves many hundreds of years". Lawrence Stone quotes Aubrey in the introduction to his latest study of the family and its vicissitudes in the 17th and 18th centuries as a justification for using case-studies: "If the historian's prime task is to explain change over time, another equally important function is surely to bring the past alive."

But as a matter of fact Aubrey calls attention as much to the personal zest that some historians possess — Aubrey had it himself — as to the value of any particular historical method. (It is this zest which makes Gibbon, for example, or even Froude, still readable today.) Certainly Stone's enthusiasm has carried him and his readers through a lifetime's work, based on archival research which might in other hands turn out to be dry dust, to use the favourite condemnatory term of another "conjuror", Carlyle. For *Uncertain Unions* owes its genesis to study of the Process Books from the records of the Court of Arches in the Lambeth Palace Library. But from this daunting-sounding repository — from the point of view of the general reader at least — emerges a series of startling tales of sexual scandal, sufficiently juicy to feature in any modern tabloid.

Despite their melodramatic content, such case-studies would not however literally feature today, since their basis is the astonishing chaos of the marriage laws in England up to the Hardwicke Act of 1753, as revealed in these ecclesiastical records where petitioners sought to have marriages declared invalid (or valid). The honest pedestrian plod of civil marriage today, the registry office, the certificates of freedom-to-marry needed, the public registration of the ceremony, are a far cry from the time when up to 20 per cent of all marriages were "clandestine" — that is to say, kept secret, possibly for years, from nearest if not dearest relations.

Indeed, in one case considered here, the clandestine marriage had actually been kept secret from the bride herself. The object of the concealment was to secure a fortune for a poverty-stricken young Frenchman from a wealthy widow who had declined his advances. For

in an age where a woman's wealth passed automatically to her husband, marriage to an heiress was by far the simplest and quickest method by which a man could secure personal wealth.

In 1690 Lucy Hooper was the widow of a coachmaker who had carried on her husband's prosperous business. She sounds a most sympathetic character: her own servant called her "of a generous and free spirit, and a good housekeeper". She evidently preferred the independence of her (wealthy) widowed state to further matrimonial ventures, a fact she tactfully but firmly conveyed by continuing to wear "second mourning" for her late husband. But one Jean-Jacques

UNCERTAIN UNIONS
Marriage in England
1660-1753
By Lawrence Stone
OUP, £25

Fazas, a Huguenot refugee who had lost his fortune in France, did not take the sartorial hint. When Mrs Hooper continued to decline his persistent courtship, he lured her to the house of an accomplice who was said to want to order a coach and had her drugged with a dish of chocolate.

In vain poor Mrs Hooper tried out as she collapsed: "Oh, what ails me. I'll go home..." Instead of being taken home, she was conveyed to a rogue clergyman, married to the egregious Jean-Jacques, placed ritually in a bed where the marriage was, according to the bridegroom, consummated, and finally deposited home. When Mrs Hooper eventually came round late the next day, she found to her horror a wedding-ring on her finger. As Mrs Hooper exclaimed: "Oh! I know nothing of it, nor how I came by it."

Fortunately for Mrs Hooper, in bringing her case for the annulment of her marriage (and preservation of her fortune), she had the evidence of various coachmen to support her, and she won her case on the grounds that the marriage had been performed under duress.

Although Mrs Hooper's case is especially startling, with its mixture of drugs, abduction and rape, most of the cases considered here read as vividly as fiction. One quickly realises that the Restoration plays, let alone novels like *Clarissa*, were

firmly based on reality. Nor are the women the only victims. In this "seamy London underworld of venal and drunken dergymen and easily corrupted witnesses" as Stone describes it, women were not only often conspirators, but totally unscrupulous conspirators to boot. Susan Forbes, for example, used her former lover George Mordaunt's marriage as an opportunity to blackmail him. She claimed a prior marriage, which would have robbed him of his newly acquired (Dorset) fortune.

George tried to rebut his mistress's claims with a brutality characteristic of his age. "Having regard to my birth and quality, I never had any thoughts or designs of courting or addressing Susanah in the way of marriage, she being a woman of very mean and obscure extractions." She responded by staging a fake marriage (an impostor playing the part of George) which was then antedated to a period before the Dorset wedding.

In the end she actually arranged no fewer than three fake marriages (one of them the role of the groom was played by Susan Forbes's niece, a prostitute whose speciality for clients was dressing up in Quaker costume, but who opted for drag on this occasion). Finally she failed, for all her armoury of perjured witnesses, and George won: which was of course justice. Yet one cannot help sneakingly admiring the resourceful if mendacious "Susanah" more than the equally mercenary and far more snobbish George.

Stone's ultimate point is the importance of the 1753 Act in putting an end to all this confusion, including the colourful ruses to which it gave rise. Along the way, he provides a compelling view of English society before the Act. The "clandestine" dergymen, operating a kind of privatised marriage market, often from debtors' prison, are a fascinating subject in themselves.

Incidentally I have referred to Professor Stone as the sole author throughout (as he is credited on the title page), although in his acknowledgements he pays generous tribute to his previous collaborator and wife Jeanne Fowler Stone and his research assistant Timothy Wales. But I cannot help mildly wondering how such an able team tolerant of various appearances of a "Sir John Sedley" in the text — when he is correctly indexed as Sir Charles.



Six consorts: (above) Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour; (below) Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, Catherine Parr

King Bluebeard's wives

Around the time when Henry VIII succeeded to the throne in 1509, there was a sort of lay theory of Christianity which persisted as a very pervasive myth. It stated that Christian behaviour meant charity, that charity was the opposite of enmity, and that it entailed a relationship both internal and external, called friendship. One of the principal forms of friendship was marriage, which not only bound the couple married but bound their blood-relations also.

This relationship was called affinity. Affinity was a Christian relationship *per se*, which natural kinship or consanguinity was not, or not exactly. St Augustine had said that the human race, after the children of Adam and Eve, did not marry blood-relations because it was their business to spread the relations of friendship and charity around. Hence the extensive notion of incest held by the pre-Reformation church, and other niceties of the marriage law with which Henry VIII had to contend.

Two things had happened earlier in his reign to show that this Christian anthropology of marriage was not dead. In his other masterpiece, the *History of King Richard III*, Thomas More put into the mouth of the dying King Edward IV, Richard's elder brother, a most eloquent statement of it. Edward, though partial to the flesh,

was More's good king; Richard was his bad king. According to More, Edward said that if England was to be a Christian commonwealth, or indeed a commonwealth at all, his nobility should regard the bonds of affinity as no less binding than those of consanguinity, to which nature inclined them. Loving one's in-laws was a painful and therefore Christian duty on which depended the peace of the world. The other thing was that Henry on his accession had married an intelligent woman who believed in the theory.

This was Catherine of Aragon, who is by and large the heroine of Antonia Fraser's learned and serious new book. Not that Lady Antonia is overpartial to her. She says that after Henry repudiated her, Catherine became obsessed with her rights and wrongs, and a nagger. The two Protestant queens, Anne Boleyn and especially Catherine Parr, come out well in her story. So does Jane Seymour, who died producing Henry's son and heir.

Jane Seymour and Catherine Parr emerge as doing their bit to keep the family together by being nice to the discarded children, Mary and Elizabeth. It seems mainly due to them that the royal

John Bossy

THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII
By Antonia Fraser
Weidenfeld, £20

wreckage that Henry had left, and he did well to be grateful to them.

But Catherine of Aragon dominates the scene, and no wonder. She had Henry for 20 years, and except for Catherine Parr, the survivor, none of the rest had time for a real marital relation to grow. But her true distinction was that, consciously, devotedly and perhaps in the end embarrassingly, she embodied the matrimonial theology of Augustine and More. On the whole Lady Antonia is not at her best on Christianity, but she gets this point across very sharply.

Catherine cannot have got the notion from More, because the *History of Richard III* was not published in his or her lifetime, and she was not close to him, as she was to his fellow-martyr John Fisher. More was Henry's friend. She must, as Lady Antonia points out, have got it from her mother, Queen Isabella of Castile, who had put it into practice herself when she married Ferdinand of Aragon. It was indeed, if not exactly a woman's theology, at least a theol-

ogy which gave the married or marriageable woman a serious and dignified role in the creation of Christian society. It was not really a paternalistic theory: while it required submission to fathers, it did not exactly require submission to husbands. What it required with husbands was friendship, which was two-edged. In the cause of Christian friendship, Catherine had come to a foreign country to marry, first Prince Arthur, then King Henry. In that case she stuck up for her marriage when the Pope wanted her to retire gracefully into a convent. She refused to give her name to a rebellion against the king: she could not, she said, wage war upon her husband.

I do not think Catherine was a saint, as Lady Antonia implies at the end of her book. She was a little too fond of her family of origin. She did not regard the French as friends, even before they launched Anne Boleyn against her. If she had been in their position, she would have been a persecutor like her mother Isabella and her daughter Mary. Charity stopped a little too near home. But she was surely the most distinguished queen consort we have had, and a credit to the world that bred her.

Professor Bossy's most recent book, *Giordano Bruno and the Embassy Affair*, was published last year.

From Bosch to boating songs

In Louis de Bernières' bizarre novel, *The Troublesome Offspring of Cardinal Guzman*, a little boy who gets thrown out of a window turns into a hummingbird. An old general has a would-be assassin's bullet removed by an Indian witch doctor who becomes an eagle at will and, towards the end, a priest levitates with joy.

If such phenomena sound familiar, you have more than likely been reading Gabriel Garcia Marquez, where transformations of the real into the stuff of sorcery happen all the time. The transformations seem natural, people levitate, return from the dead and generally defeat biology in Marquez's novels. Appropriating his techniques, however, is a perilous business.

In spite of his name, De Bernières is as English as they come, though he has worked as a teacher and as a cowboy in a Colombian village. He has learnt much about the intricacies of the latter profession: "Nowadays most lasses are made of blue nylon rope, and the consequence of this progress is that horses are much harder to catch. The rope picks up permanent and intractable kinks that make it almost impossible to make a perfect loop with it."

Blind factual details like that are what make this novel an odd one. Statements which resemble instructions from an outward-bound manual sit alongside images of an almost pornographic devilry. De Bernières has a visionary eye for detail, but he cannot make up his mind whether his fictional universe more closely resembles an SAS survival course or a painting by Hieronymus Bosch.

James Woodall

THE TROUBLESOME OFFSPRING OF CARDINAL GUZMAN
By Louis de Bernières
Secker & Warburg, £14.99

finally thwarted by the cowboys, whores and fake priests — and by a pack of tame jaguars — of the city of Cochoabaja de los Gatos ("Swamp Beneath the Cats"). There are some spectacular moments, comic and terrible. Guzman's battle with obscene devils aside (nothing if not spectacular), the visit of the British Ambassador to Cochoabaja is one such moment. His humiliating transformation from stiff but interested dignitary to sozzled innocent, forced to listen to a bawdy rendition of the Eton Boating Song and then to watch an epic bout of intercourse between two Mulatto lovers and a lot of fruit, is extremely funny. So are the priapic anuses of the mad President Veracruz, absent from his country for an extended "22-month diplomatic tour".

But the real problem with this novel is that evasive quality, tone. There is nothing wrong with variety, and everything with stylistic Babel. De Bernières provides a bit of both: in a novel of just under 400 pages, in which he veers from Marquez to Bosch to Boy Scoutese — and in the satirical passages not a little of Tom Sharpe — an author can be said not to have been properly brought to book. Had De Bernières been made to prune these enjoyable pages by about a quarter, an authoritative voice might have emerged. This is his third attempt: perhaps in the fourth novel he will become his own man.

CORRECTION
The exhibition referred to in last Thursday's review by Peter Ackroyd of London — World City took place in Essen, not Cologne as stated.



Pakistan's fast bowlers Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis

Continued from page 1 made a strange combination, the great and the good in their black and their white, their orders and decorations hanging bluely beneath their bow ties. I in my green shell suit with the Reebok trainers, I was with the chattering classes, who chattered the chat the chattering classes like to chatter when they are just chatting: of the ERM of the EMU, of hard ECUs and soft landings, of holidays and health farms, of their charming villas in the Dordogne and their undying hatred of the French.

At last, impatient, I stopped a passing penguin suit — he turned out to be John Major, though he probably did not know that himself then — and asked to be directed toward some writers. After a moment of thought, he smiled affably

and pointed me in the direction of the far, portrait-hung wall. He proved on this question certainly entirely in the right. Up against the wall, in a terrified herd, I found the shortlisted six, the authors whose books were being weighed against each other for the prize. They were huddled together, drinking glasses of orange juice and surrounded by sad-looking literary agents and publishers' publicity girls, every one of them called Fiona. As I expected, they were mostly elderly ladies, though one was a very young girl just learning the granny trade. Another a male author from the Antipodes suffering from terminal jet-lag. Some of the ladies had permed their hair, though most

preferred to leave theirs in a state of gay disorder. Some carried plastic shopping bags, one was already weeping a little, another complaining she had taken more orange juice than was good for her. All appeared bewildered, as if no one had properly explained them why, just for this once, they had been let out. The only way they resembled writers was that all of them were sulky and spiteful, and clearly detested each other. By now the five judges, the deliberations completed, were back in the room and spreading the result among their spouses or other consorts. But, the game of the Booker being to keep the authors themselves in suspense as long as possible, to raise the

drama of the event, the writers themselves had no idea of the outcome, and so didn't know which of their group to detest the most. I summoned up my charm (maybe I should say that from time to time I do have some) and approached the Fionas, saying I wanted to interview their charges on the influence of Dirty Realism on their work. Speaking as one Fiona, they refused point-blank, explaining no interviews were allowed until the result had been announced. Then the winner would be presented to the press, and their remaining candidates abandoned, presumably, to their various miserable fates. Even now I'm not sure whether the Fionas

Lords of the swing

Nigel Williamson

WASIM AND WAQAR
Imran's Inheritors
By John Grace
Bantam, £15.99

WHAT IS A GOOGLY?

By Robert Eastaway
Robson, £6.99

SOMEONE WHO WAS
By Brian Johnston
Methuen, £14.99

seriously the question of why so many "incidents" seem to befall the Pakistanis wherever they play. Old Trafford this summer being but the latest example. It is not that this bouncer of an issue is ducked. Grace does present a picture of a team which spends much of its time bleating about the umpires, bickering with officialdom and which believes it is at war with a cricketing establishment that is out to do down Pakistani cricket at every opportunity. But Grace tries to exonerate the Pakistanis of all blame — and fails to convince.

Grace makes a poor umpire: he allows some bizarre wides and no-balls to go uncalled. Wasim is allowed the preposterous assertion that the restrictions on intimidatory bowling have been "brought in to

protect one batsman and that is Graeme Hick". The Lancashire batsman Gahan Mendis has a unique view of the ball-doctoring controversy: "Perhaps their sweat has different properties to other people's that make it ideal for swinging the ball."

What is a googly? is the sort of question all cricket-lovers have spent hours attempting to explain to wives, girlfriends, six-year-olds and American cousins. Robert Eastaway answers this and other equally perplexing questions with wit and panache and has shrewdly perceived a large market with the ideal giftbook for cricket lovers to bestow upon the uninitiated. John Major recently gave George Bush a copy on a trip to Camp David: whether it will help the president on his sticky wicket remains to be seen.

Brian Johnston's *Someone Who Was* marks the commentator's 80th birthday. It is not really a cricket book, although naturally the game figures largely in its pages. It is a loose autobiography, full of Johnston's wit, honed over nearly 50 years of broadcasting, complete with the infuriating prep school nicknames and dreadful puns which are his trademark. When he finally follows those other voices of summer Swanton and Arlott into retirement, both cricket and broadcasting will be the poorer.

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© Doctor Crimale by Malcolm Bradbury is published by Secker & Warburg on September 14 (£14.99)

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QUALIFICATIONS

- Probably mid 30's to early 40's, graduate calibre. Proven success of selling complex IT services into new corporate accounts, ideally for PC/workstation distributed environments.
- Well developed team management skills. Substantial personal and company revenue performance achievement. Empathy with marketing.
- Committed manager with strong negotiation skills. High level credibility. Good communicator and motivator.

Please write, enclosing full cv. Ref SL3482

7 Shaftesbury Court, Chalvey Park, Slough, SL1 2ER



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Director of Human Resources

London Underground Ltd

£60,000 + Benefits

Central London

This is the top personnel position in London Underground. A major opportunity for a professional to influence the whole range of the company's activities.

THE COMPANY

- 21,000 employees. Revenues in excess of £600m.
- Clearly focused and radical Plan for change already being implemented.
- Plan will deliver significantly improved safety, quality and efficiency including staff reductions of 5,000.

THE POSITION

- Key member of corporate management team reporting to Managing Director.
- Critical role in driving forward all HR features of the Plan.
- Develop HR input to strategic planning, especially in training, culture change and best practice management systems.

- Work closely with line management to provide knowledge and expertise to support business units.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Broadly based blue-chip HR experience in unionised environment with proven commercial flair.
- Down-to-earth but able to see the big picture. Change oriented with excellent communications skills.
- Able to win the confidence and respect of senior line business managers. Facilitate change and enable others to perform well.

Please write, enclosing full cv, Ref L3271
 54 Jermy Street, London, SW1Y 6LX



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Manufacturing Operations Director

Multi-Assembly Electronic Products

Northern England

£40,000 + Bonus + Car

This successful medium-sized company, part of an ambitious British-owned group, manufactures and markets a range of quality, high performance electronic equipment. The company's success is based on its ability to serve niche markets, which require complexity of product offer and a flexible manufacturing operation.

This important role reports to the Managing Director and has responsibility for formulating and implementing manufacturing strategy, consistent with the commercial needs of the business. Managing and directing a committed workforce, the appointee will have the following key responsibilities:

- developing and driving plans to maximise productivity and commercial effectiveness;
- directing all aspects of planning, purchasing, quality and production;
- implementing TQM, adding to £55750 which has already been achieved.

Already in manufacturing operations management with a world-class manufacturer, the successful candidate should be able to demonstrate a considerable record of achievement in improving productivity and total quality. Ideally aged 35 to 45 and of graduate calibre, candidates should have experience of working in a fast-moving, multi-assembly environment. Vision and strategic awareness should be complemented by a practical and direct approach to implementing plans. Other important personal attributes must include first-class leadership and communication skills.

The remuneration package will include an attractive bonus scheme, fully expensed executive car, pension scheme, health care and assistance with relocation where necessary.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing a detailed CV, to Philip Gardiner at the address below, quoting reference number 91217N.



MANAGEMENT SELECTION

PARK HOUSE, 6 KILLINGBECK DRIVE, YORK ROAD, LEEDS LS14 6UF FAX: 0532 484852. TELEPHONE: 0532 351007.
 A GKR Group Company

Senior Management Consultants

Major International Practice

UK-Based

Salary Range £25,000 - £45,000

In the current business climate, there are few firms of management consultants who can match our client's growth record. The practice specialises in optimising business performance, and functional areas embrace organisational development, business systems, sales and marketing, distribution and logistics, manufacturing and financial management.

There is an immediate requirement to appoint additional consultancy personnel as Project Managers and Senior Consultants, to work on mainly UK-based assignments.

Operating with senior client management, the successful candidates will be responsible for leading, or working as part of, multi-disciplined project teams. Key tasks will include:

- investigating clients' current activities;
- identifying areas of under-performance and recommending best practice;

- implementing recommendations and training client personnel.

Candidates, ideally aged 25 to 45, with a graduate level qualification, must be able to demonstrate a successful background in consultancy projects. The requirement is primarily for candidates with experience gained in an established management consultancy, although a successful track record in project management would also be considered.

First-class presentation, communication and interpersonal skills at executive/board level are essential. The nature of the assignments will demand high personal commitment and a willingness to travel extensively. Business fluency in a second European language would be an advantage.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing a detailed CV, to Philip Gardiner at the address below, quoting reference number 91218N.



MANAGEMENT SELECTION

PARK HOUSE, 6 KILLINGBECK DRIVE, YORK ROAD, LEEDS LS14 6UF FAX: 0532 484852. TELEPHONE: 0532 351007.
 A GKR Group Company

GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY UNIT UNIT GENERAL MANAGER

Salary to £61,000

Glasgow Royal Infirmary Unit is the largest of the Board's nine Units. Centred on Glasgow Royal Infirmary, a major 800 bed teaching hospital, with extensive National and Supra-area clinical commitments, the Unit includes three other hospitals, and has a total budget of £80m and a staff of 3,000. The Unit faces a challenging agenda in the light of the NHS reforms.

Your job will be to manage the Unit and its resources to provide an improved and more efficient service. You will secure a shared commitment within the Unit to these goals and establish mutually supportive relationships with purchasers.

You will need to be a general manager of exceptional quality and vision, used to significant financial responsibility, and with a successful record in the management of change.

This challenging opportunity is offered with an attractive salary and benefits package, access to a leased car, and assistance with relocation expenses.

If you consider you have the background to match this exciting job specification, you should write to Stewart Hinchelwood, Director of Personnel, 112 Ingram Street, Glasgow G1 1ET for an information package and an application form.



Our business is health



- MOTOROLA Worldwide - 100,000 people
- In Europe - 10,500 people
- In the UK - 4,500 people
- Key objectives: Intelligent Innovation - Quality - Total Customer Satisfaction
- Global Leaders in Networked Communication Systems

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

IMPLEMENT
A "GREENFIELD" STRATEGY
FOR EUROPE'S
LARGEST GROWTH MARKET

BASINGSTOKE

Motorola's European Cellular Subscriber Division has already established itself as the market leader in the field of analogue and digital cellular telecommunications products and systems. With a 5 year marketing programme already defined, we have recently created this new role, and are seeking a graduate calibre professional with the track record, credibility and determination to implement the programme throughout Europe.

Based at our European HQ in Basingstoke, you'll be working closely with HQ management, Country Managers and Product Marketing colleagues throughout Europe to develop a consistent integrated communications programme which will support our activities on a Pan European and local national level. From managing our appointed advertising agency to create a powerful brand identity and working with Product Marketing on new product launches to ensure consistency with future global promotional requirements, this role will stretch your influencing, creative and business skills to the limit.

Aged 28+, with foreign language ability, you must have at least 5 years' experience of developing and implementing strategic marketing/advertising plans as well as short term tactical projects. A team player as well as a self-starter, your experience will probably have been gained in a large international or European organisation. With a significant budget behind you, this is an excellent, highly visible opportunity to make things happen. As you'd expect, your acid test will be results.

The remuneration and benefits package will not be a limiting factor, and the opportunities for career progression are on a truly worldwide basis.

In the first instance send a brief CV to Helen Wyatt, Personnel Manager, Motorola Ltd, Cellular Subscriber Division, Beechgrove Court, Crookford Lane, Chicheham, Basingstoke, Hants. RG2Y 0NA. Telephone 0256 817474, Fax 0256 27092.

071-481 4481

EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

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INTERGRAPH

SALES EXECUTIVE

Interactive Computer Graphics

Scotland OTE £45,000, car

Intergraph Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, with revenues in excess of \$1.1 billion and over 10,000 employees, is acknowledged as a world leader in the development and marketing of computer graphic solutions for major industries. Responsibility, as a member of the Oil and Process Industries Divisional sales team of the successful and rapidly expanding UK subsidiary, is for the generation of substantial additional business from existing and potential new customers. Following a detailed product familiarisation and induction programme at the London sales office, which will include extensive on territory client activity, you will transfer to an Aberdeen base, focussing on opportunities within the downstream activities of oil and petrochemicals organisations and related manufacturing companies in Scotland. Candidates will be chemical or mechanical engineering graduates aged over 30, able to demonstrate an outstanding track record in the sale of computer based solutions to a sophisticated client base with average contract values in excess of £100,000. The comprehensive benefits include a basic salary of c.£27,500, a realistic opportunity for substantial additional earnings and a generous relocation package if required. Please forward in absolute confidence a full curriculum vitae to Adderley Featherstone plc, The Grainger Suite, Dobson House, Regent Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3PF. Tel: 091 284 2213. Fax: 091 285 1137.

ADDERLEY-FEATHERSTONE plc

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COMPUTER SYSTEMS SALES

AMBITIOUS, RESULTS ORIENTATED BUSINESS DEVELOPERS

Established for over ten years and employing 100 professionals in four UK offices, we are a successful and growing software house providing administration management systems solutions... particularly to educational establishments, local government and financial services organisations. Reorganisation of our London sales team, based at Ilford, has created the following key requirements:

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

£23k basic + car, OTE £46k

Strong team management and proven personal sales record at the sharp end of integrated systems software/hardware solutions. Goal orientated team builder with well developed negotiating skills and watertight technical knowledge.

APPLICATIONS SALES EXECUTIVES

£20k basic + car, OTE £40k

Experienced in software applications/solutions sales ideally with knowledge/track record in local authority and/or education management sectors.

SALES SUPPORT MANAGER

£22k + car

Possibly hardware manufacturer background with UNIX knowledge. To look after all aspects of pre and post sales support in this busy sales office.

These important and influential appointments represent outstanding opportunities for hardworking, ambitious systems sales professionals (graduates preferred) who live in the South East and are keen to make their mark in a progressive and flourishing company.

Write with c.v., indicating the post you are applying for, to Stuart Battersby, Group Sales Manager, NORD Systems Limited, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex IG2 7SA. No agencies.

NORD

With Hogan Systems, a global leader in financial solutions, you will rank among the best who provide on-site consultation and user training on our customised software. A Hogan Systems background is highly desirable for each position and the ability to travel and/or relocate internationally is a necessity.

Business Consultant

With 5-10 years technical experience in a banking environment and excellent communication skills, you will identify clients' business objectives and define their needs for product customisation.

Senior Programmer/Analysts

Your experience should include 4-6 years with COBOL and CICS, IMS or DB2, and in-depth knowledge of retail applications (current savings accounts, lending, credit/debit cards), preferably gained in a financial institution or software house environment.

In return, we offer an excellent salary and benefits package, relocation assistance, (paid travel) and living expenses and more. Please forward your resume with salary history to Hogan Systems (UK) Limited, Human Resources Manager, ST923 Church Street W, Woking, Surrey, GU24 1D. Equal Opportunity Employer. No Agencies.

Hogan

Career Evaluation

Allied Dunbar Assurance plc have branches throughout the South East and are looking for intelligent and professionally minded people between 25 and 40 to market their range of financial services.

If you have ever wondered whether a career in sales or marketing would suit you, this is your opportunity to find out. We would like to invite you to attend a meeting to be held shortly which will discuss and explain the opportunities available within the Group and also - most importantly - offer a COMPREHENSIVE ALTERNATIVE CAREER EVALUATION exercise. We have for many years guided ourselves in our ability to select talent from outside the financial services industry and to develop very successful Financial Planning Consultants from those who have had no experience of sales in the past.

Please write with a brief c.v. to: Emma Brown, Allied Dunbar, 1st Floor, Clockhouse Court, 5-7 London Road, St. Albans, Herts AL1 1AA or call 0727 836511.

(Opportunities exist in the following locations: Bedfordshire, Central London, Crawley, Essex, East Midlands, Birmingham, Oxfordshire, Lancashire/Greater Manchester, St. Albans, Watford, Woking, N.W. London and other locations nationwide.)

Allied Dunbar Assurance plc is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ALLIED DUNBAR

Manufacturing Operations Manager

Advanced process manufacturing environment

A key manufacturing unit within a large global technology organisation, our client's undeniable success in the international market is built on strong foundations of applied research, investment and a commitment to total quality.

We are now looking for an experienced manufacturing manager to control and direct the planning of manufacturing, and take a strategic lead in the development of the site, both in terms of technology and methods.

With 170 management and production staff under your control, you'll be entering a successful mixed manufacturing environment which includes process production, the assembly of electronics and precision manufactured mechanical components. Reporting to the General Manager, the emphasis of the role will be on the need to translate the five year manufacturing strategy into a series of workable action plans - with a particular focus on quality, budgetary control and delivery timescales.

Hence your management oversight will cover system assembly, manpower resourcing, test,

production planning, TQM and the introduction of new computer based systems.

Educated to degree level in an engineering discipline, it's unlikely that anyone under 30 will have either the depth or breadth of experience required. An excellent communicator with a proven ability in the management of projects and control of significant budgets, you must be familiar with modern manufacturing techniques such as Kanban, Taguchi and JIT - experience most probably gained in a process engineering, assembly or electronics technology manufacturing environment.

This is a senior and highly visible role which offers the scope to make a considerable personal impact. For the right person, neither the immediate rewards or longer term career prospects will prove disappointing.

To apply, please send your CV to Richard Wilding, TCS Confidential Replies Service, 35 Carway Road, London W2 4QF. Tel: 071-243 1176. Fax: 071-243 0060.

TCS

ADVERTISING

Confidential Reply Service

Development Dimensions International

"BUILDING EMPOWERED ORGANISATIONS"

For over 20 years, Development Dimensions International (DDI) has been helping organisations succeed - through people - working in close partnership to create empowered, high-involvement workforces. Central to this is our expertise in 3 key areas - organisational change, assessment and selection, and training and development.

An impressive client base including many of Europe's top companies is a clear indicator of our success, and with consistent growth at over 50% per annum we now need three more highly talented professionals to join our team based at our European Regional Headquarters in HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

SENIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ROLE - EUROPE

Package c. £35,000 + car + benefits

Ref: NA 5366

In this high-profile role, you will consult and influence at the most senior level, promoting our services to gain new business from multi-national organisations currently operating throughout Europe. You will manage and develop each account, guiding colleagues and collaborating with them in project work to maintain the highest levels of client satisfaction. You must have gained at least 3-5 years' multinational experience in either Training and Development, or Selection and Development, together with a minimum of 3 years' general commercial or industrial experience. An EC National and resident in the UK (Thames Valley), you must be fluent in English and at least one other major European language. 50% of your time will be spent working abroad in mainland Europe, for which an adaptable lifestyle and high levels of energy are essential.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - SOUTHERN UK

£25,000 package + car + benefits

Ref: NA 5367

This newly-created position offers the ideal opportunity for a keen HR professional to join our team at ground level, attending presentations and working closely with

colleagues on client projects, to learn our business and eventually develop your own accounts. A personnel generalist, you should be a graduate, currently living within the Thames Valley, and must combine at least 3 years' commercial experience with a strong sense of customer service. Promotion will be a natural progression for an enthusiastic and dedicated team-player who can achieve results.

SELECTION AND ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT

£35,000 (including bonus) + car + benefits

Ref: NA 5368

Over 20 years ago, our president Dr. William C Byham pioneered the commercial use of assessment centres and today we are a world leader with the highest quality of assessment technology. An additional consultant is now needed to work in our Selection and Assessment Team.

You will work closely with a wide variety of clients in the following areas: conducting job-analysis, developing assessment systems, delivering training in assessor and behavioural interviewing skills, and project managing on large-scale implementations. Ideally with a degree in Occupational Psychology and at least 3 years' broad industrial experience including some line management, you should be attracted by DDI's behavioural approach to assessment, and will derive real satisfaction from meeting clients' needs. Travel throughout the UK and occasionally Europe should also appeal.

For all three roles we need people who can work successfully in our own high-involvement culture, and who will seek to achieve continually-stretching objectives. High volumes of work and tight deadlines mean it's a demanding environment in which to work but in return we offer unlimited scope for personal growth - with a company at the leading edge of human resource solutions.

If you feel ready for a significant challenge, please write in strictest confidence, quoting the appropriate reference number, with full CV and salary details, to:

Felicity Exton, Managing Consultant, NORTHBROOK ASSOCIATES LTD., 1 Bridge Street, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5BH. Tel: (0635) 49670

General Manager - Sales

State of the art videoconferencing products designed to meet the growing needs of this dynamic environment have enabled my client to secure a major share of the fastest growing sector of the telecommunications market. An established company with a significant presence in several countries, they have plans to develop into a commanding position on a worldwide scale. This strategy provides a unique opportunity for a high calibre sales manager who has the proven experience of managing a multi-channel international sales environment.

Probably a graduate with at least 10 years' experience, you should have a broad understanding of telecommunications or networks and, ideally, videoconferencing. Your strong personal and team building skills should be supplemented with the practical experience of major account development and distributor management. A broad commercial awareness and a second European language would be added advantages. Operating from your base in the Thames Valley, you should be prepared for a considerable amount of overseas travel.

The remuneration package includes a substantial salary, performance payment, company car, private health insurance and other benefits designed to attract the very best.

To apply, please send your CV, quoting reference MD2730, to me, Clive Morris at Macmillan Davies, Colston Centre, Colston Street, Bristol, BS1 4UX. Telephone (0272) 251351. Fax (0272) 254903.

Videoconferencing

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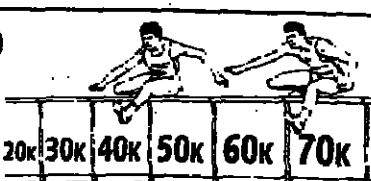
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McKenzie Waterman

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Well established, Interactive Resourcing has an enviable reputation for providing an efficient recruitment service of the highest quality within the IT sectors of industry. We can now offer two experienced IT recruitment consultants the opportunity to share in our success. One of the successful candidates will be expected to take up a team management role shortly after joining. For further information or to apply in the strictest confidence contact:

Amanda Marsden, Interactive Resourcing Limited, 6 Campbell Court, Bramley, Basingstoke RG26 5EG. Tel: (0256) 882826

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Highly attractive package

This is an outstanding opportunity for a sales professional to join one of the world's best known manufacturers of cranes and excavators. With a turnover of £30 million in the UK, Atlas Hydraulic Loaders Limited, the UK subsidiary of Atlas Weyhausen GmbH, is enjoying a period of sustained growth and profitability, both domestically and in worldwide markets, and has ambitious plans for growth.

Reporting to the Managing Director, you will have profit and operational responsibility for managing all aspects of the excavator sales division, covering both new and used sales in the UK. You must have at least 5 years experience of selling construction machinery, and ideally should have sold excavators. A track record of success working as a Sales Manager either for a well known UK or Overseas company is particularly desirable. You must possess excellent sales management and motivational skills and the ability to make commercially sensible business decisions. A business qualification would be useful but is not essential.

Our client is offering an excellent package which includes a high basic salary, bonus, a Mercedes and other executive benefits. The location of the job will be either Cannock or Bradford. A comprehensive relocation package is available.

**Touche
Ross**

Interested applicants should send a detailed CV, quoting reference A07 to Peter Siviter, Touche Ross Executive Selection at the address below.



MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
39 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2QQ.

Create Business Partnerships with Multi-Nationals utilising Consulting and Technology

Our client is a global IT vendor and service provider with a proven ability to provide leading edge strategic information systems. They have recently undertaken a global strategy utilising the company's core strengths to work in business partnership with the largest multi-nationals in a drive for service excellence. They have set up new teams to support this strategy and now require a number of outstanding individuals who are committed to customer satisfaction and innovative use of technology to support strategic business partnerships.

Strategic Account Managers New Business Development

Package c.£65k + Car

Responsibility will be for developing relationships with major multi-nationals in order to support their business strategies through delivery of solutions which will range from systems integration and outsourcing to strategic consulting. These are highly influential roles. They call for an excellent academic background, significant commercial experience, and an outstanding record of success in strategic account development. Currently working with a systems integrator, management consultancy or major IT vendor, you will be focusing on the PROCESS INDUSTRIES OR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SECTOR.

Based in London/Thames Valley, these are high profile demanding roles in which your success will depend on your ability to influence organisations at board level. This will be enhanced by your understanding of the commercial advantage which integrated solutions can provide. Working in a stimulating environment the rewards are substantial both in terms of overall package and career opportunities. Please send or fax your CV to Goodman Graham and Associates, advising consultants, at the address below, quoting the appropriate reference, and outlining the sectors in which you have specific expertise.

**GOODMAN GRAHAM
AND ASSOCIATES**

8 Beaumont Gate, Shenley Hill, Radlett, Herts WD7 7AR.
Telephone: 0923 855515. Fax: 0923 854791

Strategic Sales Consultants Business Process Re-Engineering

Package c.£65k + Car

You will join an elite group tasked with winning strategic consulting and systems integration business with major clients on top management issues. Operating at the most senior levels, you will provide the vision and act as the facilitator to enable organisations to make positive and fundamental change in the areas of business process re-engineering, flexible working practice and service excellence. Probably in your 30s and a graduate, ideally with an MBA, you will have a broad commercial background coupled with a deep understanding of IT. Your experience in a client contact role will have been gained in a leading management consultancy, software house or vendor where business development was a measurable part of the brief.

Ref: 5101.

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We help you recognise and act on the wealth of opportunities that exist - even in these times.

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CHUSID LANDER
35/37 Fitzroy Street, London W1P 5AF

Director of Finance and Corporate Affairs

for a long-established, major charity which is recognized as a leader in the field of care for people with disability. This is a key appointment in a period of change in the control and development of the charity which operates throughout the U.K. and overseas. In addition to responsibility for financial control, the role extends to overall management of corporate fundraising and public relations.

A qualified accountant with a commercial orientation is required. Personal attributes for a top management position, the ability to introduce new ideas and technical competence are all equally important.

Salary not less than £30,000. Location: London.

Please write in confidence with full CV to
Geoffrey Elms, Charity Appointments,
3 Spital Yard, London E1 6AQ.

Charity Appointments

A registered charity serving the voluntary sector.

REGIONAL SALES MANAGERS

Telecommunications £42,000 + O.T.E.
Europe, Middle East & Africa

THE COMPANY Context International is a highly profitable and expanding UK company which provides international value added telecommunications services including Telex, Text-to-Fax and Electronic Mail.

THE JOB Reporting to the General Sales Manager, the Regional Managers will have full responsibility for all sales activities in their region (Europe or Middle East & Africa). Leading, managing and motivating a team of locally based Country Managers and Agents. Extensive travel involved.

PERSONAL PROFILE You are a dynamic Sales Manager, probably between 30-40 years old. You have a proven sales and management track record with extensive sales experience in the appropriate region. Clear communicator and effective organiser. Data Comms/Computer experience desirable. European languages an asset.

THE PACKAGE Negotiable salary circa £32,000 plus unlimited performance related bonus. Other benefits include: Executive Car, Pension, Private Health Insurance and Life Insurance.

Please write, enclosing a curriculum vitae, including telephone number and details of your current salary to
Stephen Evans, General Sales Manager
Context International Limited
Stephens Hall, Stonehouse Court, London EC3A 7AX

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plus benefits

Jardine Insurance Brokers is the International Insurance Broking and Risk Management Operation of Jardines. Our aim is to provide the very best service to all our clients with a commitment to quality and that means recruiting the best people.

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If you possess genuine enthusiasm plus the ability to work in a demanding yet stimulating environment, we can offer you all the benefits of working for a large, successful organisation and the opportunity to develop your career to the full.

Please apply in writing with full career history to Keith Cuthbertson, Group Personnel Manager, Jardine Insurance Services Limited, Jardine House, 6 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2HT



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IT Director - Retail

London £70,000 + Executive Benefits

This appointment arises in a company which is one of the major plc's within the distribution sector. Following recent strengthening of the top management team, the company is poised to embark on an ambitious diversification programme.

An essential element in the successful future growth of the business will be the quality of its IT systems, hence the requirement at this stage in the company's development for a senior IT professional with the strategic vision, business knowledge and personal stature to operate effectively at plc board level.

Suitable candidates will be able to demonstrate a proven record of successfully implementing point of sale, supply chain and management information systems in a major retail organisation, and will have highly developed management and communication skills.

Please send a comprehensive career résumé, including day time telephone number and quoting reference 1002, to JPW Advertising Ltd, Recruitment Division, 8 St Georges Yard, Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7LW.

JPW

Training Management to Achieve

The Training & Development Group delivers management skills courses to a modern, high-quality business with 20,000 retail outlets and a multi-billion pound turnover. We are now looking for two management training specialists to join the team, based at our Management Centre in Rugby. You will need proven experience in a commercial environment, and preferably an IPM or ITD qualification.

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Our portfolio ranges from personnel skills for line managers to workshops for senior personnel specialists. The team is enjoying an exciting and challenging period of growth. We are the first corporate organisation in the UK to win approval as a full Learner Support Centre for the IPM professional qualification.

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Janice Parker, Resourcing Manager
Cotton House Management Centre
Rugby CV23 0AA

We are an equal opportunities employer, and welcome applications from all sections of the community. Suitably qualified applicants with a disability will be shortlisted for interview.

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For further information and an application form, contact the Personnel Secretary, NFU, Agriculture House, London, SW1X 7NJ, (Tel: 071-235 5077). The closing date for completed applications is 11 September 1992.

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CHA plc, Eldon Way, Crick, Northants, NN6 7SL

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Interested applicants should contact Karen Levell at SITPRO on 071 287 3526 for an application form or send a CV, in confidence, to Karen at the address above.

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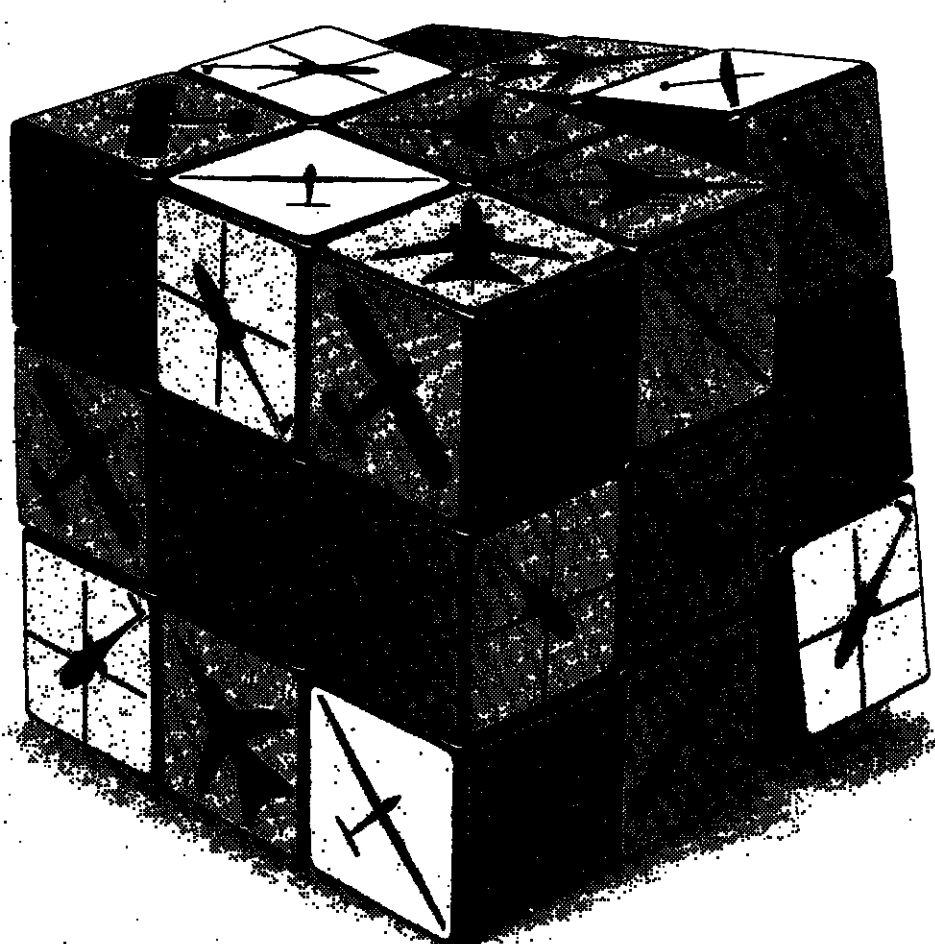
Established Int'l training corp. Seeks English Language Consultants to work with our corporate clientele in Japan for a minimum of one year. Successful candidates will possess at least a Bachelor's degree and have a minimum of two years' exp. in a business, teaching or technical capacity. A background in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) would also be advantageous.

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BBC1

6.00 CeeFax (42718) 6.30 Breakfast News (95921927)
9.05 Braverland. Space-age cartoon (i) (9593060) 9.25 Antifax.
Appreciating the art of design (i) (9593060)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (6357843) 10.05 Playdays. For
the young (i) (6149398) 10.25 Lassie. Canine adventures (i)
(3971195) 10.45 T. M. T. Media and showbusiness news presented
by Andi Peters (i) (6888060)
11.00 News, regional news and weather (1651756) 11.05 The Flying
Doctors. Australian medical drama (i). (CeeFax) (i) (8246534)
11.50 National Trust Gardens. Peckover House at Wisbech in
Cambridgeshire (6698911)
12.00 News, regional news and weather (7658466) 12.05 Summer
Scene. Simon Mayo, the Radio 1 DJ, joins Linda Mitchell and Carol
Keating at the National Garden Festival in Ebbw Vale (5919737)
12.55 Regional news and weather (51217282)
1.00 One O'Clock News. (CeeFax) Weather (88824)
1.30 Neighbours. (CeeFax) (i) (43841008)
1.50 White Rose in Africa. Yorkshire cricketers embark on their first
official tour of South Africa in 22 years (61781379)
2.20 Film: Appointment in Honduras (1953). Rugged action film
starring Glenn Ford as an adventurer who is forced to trek through
the jungle with four convicts and two antagonistic hostages. With
Ann Sheridan and Zachary Scott. Directed by Jacques Tourneur
(1743066)
3.35 Head of the Class. American comedy series (9191485)
4.00 Cartoon (328260)
4.10 Children's BBC. Babar. Cartoon fun (1429466) 4.35 Dizzy
Heights. Second of a six-part children's comedy (i) (6070008) 5.00
Newsround (5970718) 5.10 Record Breakers. Featuring tennis
players Pat Cash and Martina Navratilova (i). (CeeFax) (i) (9000350)
5.35 Neighbours (i). (CeeFax) (i) (4380531). Northern Ireland: Inside
Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (CeeFax)
Weather (114)
6.30 Regional news magazines (466). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
(i). (CeeFax) (i)
7.00 Top of the Pops. The pick of the charts (6534)
7.30 Eastenders. (CeeFax) (i) (350)
8.00 Every Second Counts. Paul Daniels hosts the game show set
against the clock (i) (5282)
8.30 The Russ Abbott Show. Comedy sketches with Les Dennis, Bella
Emberg and Sherrie Hewson (i). (CeeFax) (i) (1089)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. (CeeFax) Regional news
and weather (4682)
9.30 Porridge: Pardon Me. Priceless prison comedy starring Ronnie
Barker. Blanco (David Jason) is up for parole (i). (CeeFax) (237718)



Girl on the run: Chevy Chase with Goldie Hawn (10.05pm)

10.05 Film: Foul Play (1978)
● CHOICE: The film came to notice in the mid-seventies as the
writer of Silver Streak, an uneven but enjoyable comedy thriller
with echoes of pre-war Hitchcock. Foul Play was in similar vein,
though this time Higgins not only wrote the script but made his
debut as director. It is a sprawling and sometimes barely credible
story which succeeds largely because of the oddball presence of
Goldie Hawn. She plays a shy San Francisco librarian who becomes
the unwitting carrier of a roll of microfilm and thereby linked to an
attempt to assassinate the Pope. Hawn's mixture of dotiness and
shrewd sense lends freshness to the most banal scenes and there is
lively support from Chevy Chase, as the cop on the case, Dudley
Moore and the veteran Burgess Meredith. Do not expect a
masterpiece but your time should pass agreeably (632485).
Northern Ireland: Da miodh Ruball Ar An Ean (if the Bird Had a
Tail). 10.55-12.35am Film: Lake Speed
11.55 Weather (794843). 12.00 Close
2.15am BBC Select. Executive Business Club (33867). Ends at 2.45

BBC2

6.45-7.10 Open University. Dating a Granite (5220089) 8.00
Breakfast News (3016176) 8.15 Britain by the Sea (3039027)
8.30 Women of Our Century. The novelist Letitia Cooper (i) (24027)
9.00 Film: Pearl, Bedroom and Bath (1931, b/w). Buster Keaton well
below his best in an early talkie about an itinerant bill poster who
enters high society and is mistaken for a lothario. With Charlotte
Greenwood. Directed by Edward Sedgwick (6062263)
10.10 Film: Mama Loves Papa (1945, b/w). Flat comedy about a parks
commissioner who proves too honest for the job. Starring Leon
Errol and Elizabeth Rogers. Directed by Frank Strayer (7423553)
11.10 Film: High Flyers (1957, b/w). A tired screen faraway from the
comedy team of Bert Wheeler and Robert Woolsey, as comen
who pose as pilots and become embroiled in jewel smuggling.
Directed by Edward Cline (9076114)
12.20 On the Throne. The history of the lavatory (i) (581824)
1.00 After Hours. Entertainment from the United States (1012621)
1.20 Bertha. Children's cartoon (i) (63930805)
1.35 Swin. The breast stroke (i) (61762244)
2.00 News and weather (9562282) followed by Mini Dragons. The
first of four films about Asia looks at South Korea's transition to a
technical, service-based economy (180195)
2.55 Pop Gear Take Two. Sporting traits (i) (8925718)
3.00 News and weather (9562282) followed by All Our Children. The
first impressions of childhood (5668824) 3.50 News and weather,
regional news and weather (6960737)
4.00 International Jump. David Vine introduces the first of
four days' coverage from Hickstead (i) (6911)
6.00 Film: Spirit of the Eagle (1930). Visually impressive but
dramatically banal western adventure starring Dan Hagerty, as a
cartographer exploring the American wilderness, whose son is
kidnapped and sold to the Indians. Directed by Boon Collins (i)
(41059)
7.30 Business Minutes. The Swan Challenge. The polar explorer
Robert Swan invites three cynical managers to accompany him to
Snowdonia for five days. (CeeFax) (992)
8.00 The Climbers: Another Golden Age of Alpinism. The series on
the history of mountaineering highlights three outstanding post-war
climbers: Walter Bonatti, René Desmaison and René Desmaison
and Britain's Chris Bonington. (CeeFax) (3824)
8.30 Ps and Qs. Tony Slattery hosts the quiz for social climbers. Clothes
designers Bruce Oldfield and Lady Tynon take on art dealers Guy
Farrell and Angela Flowers. (CeeFax) (2331)
9.00 The Travel Show. Penny Junner presents reports from Golden
Sands in Bulgaria, one of Europe's cheapest resorts, and the
Yorkshire Dales (i) (8244)
9.30 Dinner at Noon
● CHOICE: Alan Bennett checks into the Crown Hotel at Harrogate
and reflects in his bemused way on the niceties of social etiquette.
Like much of Bennett's work the film is heavily autobiographical
and takes as its reference point his working-class parents. Their
fate, all too often, was to find themselves in a social world from
which by money and temperament they felt excluded. Coming
from a household in which dinner meant lunch, the Bennetts failed
to understand why poached egg on toast was not on a hotel's
evening menu. As a result, Bennett says, hotels and restaurants
were theatres of humiliation and eating in public as shaming as
having to take one's clothes off. First shown in 1988 in the Byline
series, this is a brilliantly observed and richly funny film (i). (CeeFax)
(975466)
10.10 Early Travellers in North America: The American Way. The
final programme examines the reactions of British writers to
American religion, fame, patriotism and money. (CeeFax) (776824)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (927114)



Golden years: veteran film director Sam Fuller (11.15pm)

11.15 Edinburgh Nights. The 80-year-old American director Sam Fuller
talks about the golden age of Hollywood (i) (680331)
11.55 Weather (77485)
12.00 Open University. Weekend Outlook (8580119) 12.05am
Towards a Better Life (2096409). Ends at 12.35

ITV

6.00 TV-am (4863486)
9.25 Jubilee. Today's guests are Tom O'Connor and Barbara Windsor (i)
(7766447) 9.35 Thames News (271292)
10.00 Advertisers of the Galaxy. Cartoons (2736669)
10.25 The Fantastic Adventures of Mr. Rossi (i) (2732756) 10.55 ITN
News headlines (3176805)
11.00 On Tales. Animated double bill (3186282)
11.25 Just for the Record. Record-breaking achievements (i) (i)
(1874263) 11.50 Thames News (9253398)
11.55 Cartoon (6673602)
12.10 The Kiddies. Early learning series (i) (5900244)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News. (Oracle) Weather (7586244) 1.05 Thames
News (9255114)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama. (Oracle) (492466)
1.45 A Country Practice (i) (491737)
2.15 The Miriam Stoppard Health and Beauty Show. The last in the
series examines teenage smoking, better eyesight without glasses
and healthy party food for children (483718)
2.45 Take the High Road. Drama serial set in the Highlands (9110973)
3.10 ITN News headlines (4362669) 3.15 Thames News
headlines (4354640)
3.20 The Young Doctors. Hospital drama (6186621)
3.50 News and weather (9562282) 4.00 News and weather (9562282)
(9565334) 4.15 The Miriam Stoppard Health and Beauty Show (i)
(9565553)
4.30 Rolf's Cartoon Club. Rolf Harris presents cartoon clips (i)
(319) 5.00 Cartoon (i) (598814)
5.10 Who's the Boss? American comedy series starring Tony Danza.
Max proposes to Mona (4578756)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather
(637534) 5.55 Thames Help, with Jackie Spredley (i) (943973)
6.00 Home and Away (i). (Oracle) (282) 6.30 Thames News (534)
7.00 Emmerdale. (Oracle) (1602)
7.30 Survival: Above Us the Ice. The colourful and fragile marine life
of the Antarctic. Narrated by Martin Jarvis. (Oracle) (718)

8.00 The Bill: Loyalties. Details of a drugs bust are leaked and Burnside
and Meadows undertake an internal investigation. Starring
Christopher Ellison and Simon Rouse. (Oracle) (6850)
8.30 Mids. You and His. Off His Trolley. Comedy about three men
who have been friends since childhood. With Nick Hancock, Hugh
Dennis and Steve Punt (i) (9485)
9.00 LA Law: Beauty and the Beast. CJ (Amanda Donohoe) defends
a film studio accused of forcing an actress to have breast implants.
(Oracle) (i) (4911)
10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Alastair Stewart. (Oracle)
Weather (23598) 10.30 Thames News (564244)
10.40 01 reviews the film Waterland, starring Jeremy Irons and Sinead
Cusack, and previews the Notting Hill carnival (i) (272176)
11.15 Prisoner: Cell Block H (445195)
12.00 Duels of the Mind. Raymond Keene and Donald Woods
analyse the 1970 chess match between Bent Larsen and Boris
Spassky (2082206)
12.40 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Kandinsky's Vault. The owner of a
bookstore in art to protect his secret corridors (1252461)
1.05 Film: The Masters (1975). Routine thriller starring Jennifer O'Neill
as an American teacher in a small Sicilian town who receives
unwanted attention from the Mafia. With James Mason and Franco
Nero. Directed by Luigi Zampa. An Italian film with English dialogue
(588428) 3.00 Hardball. American police series (i) (77664)
4.00 Motorsport Special. Motor racing action (13645)
5.00 America's Top Ten (i) (i) (62916)
5.00 Emmerdale. The Freckle collections (i) (62428)
5.30 ITN Morning News (33461). Ends at 6.00

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 10.00am-10.25 Family
Theatre (2736669) 1.05pm-5.40 Home and
Away (4863486) 6.25pm-6.55 Anglia News (444843)
10.40m-11.00m Anglia News (444843) 11.15m-11.30m
Hockey (634089) 11.40m-11.55m Prisoner: Cell Block H
(445195) 12.30pm-1.05pm Special Report
(216248)

CENTRAL
As London except: 10.00am-10.25 Family
Theatre (2736669) 1.05pm-5.40 Home and
Away (4863486) 6.25pm-6.55 Anglia News (444843)
10.40m-11.00m Anglia News (444843) 11.15m-11.30m
Hockey (634089) 11.40m-11.55m Prisoner: Cell Block H
(445195) 12.30pm-1.05pm Special Report
(216248)

HTV WEST
As London except: 10.00am-10.25 Family
Theatre (2736669) 1.05pm-5.40 Home and
Away (4863486) 6.25pm-6.55 Anglia News (444843)
10.40m-11.00m Anglia News (444843) 11.15m-11.30m
Hockey (634089) 11.40m-11.55m Prisoner: Cell Block H
(445195) 12.30pm-1.05pm Special Report
(216248)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at
11.10-11.25m Wales at the World

TSW
As London except: 10.00am-10.25 Family
Theatre (2736669) 1.05pm-5.40 Home and
Away (4863486) 6.25pm-6.55 Anglia News (444843)
10.40m-11.00m Anglia News (444843) 11.15m-11.30m
Hockey (634089) 11.40m-11.55m Prisoner: Cell Block H
(445195) 12.30pm-1.05pm Special Report
(216248)

RADIO 3

6.55am Adrian Edwards
7.00am On Air: Adrian Edwards
presents this morning's edition
of music, previews and news
9.00am Composers of the Week:
Glazunov and Gilels. Russian
and Soviet Ballads. French
(Raymond, Act 2, excerpts:
Scottish National Opera under
Neeme Jarvi. Grand
Orchestra of the Paris Opéra
Leslie Howard, piano). Gilels
(The Red Poppy, excerpts:
Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra
under Yuri Fayer)
10.00 Elizabeth I to II with
Britten: Dowland (The Frog
Galleon. Lachy MacPherson, piano)
Julian Bream Consort; Britten
(Shanty, Op. 48). Eric
Shumsky, voice, Stephen
Leach, piano. Dowland (Come
Heavy Sleep. Peter Pears,
soprano, Julian Bream, lute).
Britten (Nocturnal, Op. 72).
Julian Bream, guitar. Percip
(Chacony in G minor. English
CO under Benjamin Britten).
10.30am The Red Poppy, excerpts:
Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra
under Yuri Fayer
10.45am The Red Poppy, excerpts:
Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra
under Yuri Fayer
11.00am The Red Poppy, excerpts:
Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra
under Yuri Fayer
11.15am The Red Poppy, excerpts:
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under Yuri Fayer
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5.45pm The Red Poppy, excerpts:
Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra
under Yuri Fayer
6.00pm The Red Poppy, excerpts:
Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra
under Yuri Fayer

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Channel 4 Daily (6663468)
9.25 Radar Men from the Moon (b/w). Vintage science-fiction series
(7204263) 9.40 Footie. Canine animation (2366973)
9.55 Get Smart (6353176) 10.20 Star Trek. Tony Slattery (i) (2731027)
10.50 Remote Control. Anarchic quiz show (i) (8947263)
11.20 Things to Come. Predicting the future (i) (318640)
11.50 Great Britain — A Travel Guide. Transport in the eighties
(6681621) 12.00 The Munsters (b/w). Gothic humour (i) (13911)
12.30 Don't Quote Me. Geoffrey Perkins presents the panel show based
on the sayings of the famous and famous (37089)
1.00 Sesame Street. Muppet fun (i) (25244)
2.00 Secrets of the Mirror. The photographer Chris Chapman
continues to explore Ennoro (8756)
2.30 Film: If Winter Comes (1947, b/w). Sentimental love triangle story
about an unhappily married publisher who offers shelter to a
pregnant young girl. Starring Walter Pidgeon, Angela Lansbury and
Deborah Kerr. Directed by Victor Saville (6859331)
4.15 Barefooted Flat. Cartoon adventures (6352640)
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (i) (331)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Women entrepreneurs discuss their
success in business (i) (2382027)
5.50 The Bunbury Tails. Fun with the cartoon rabbits (i) (966824)
6.00 My Two Dads. A boy becomes jealous when Michael takes a
night-school class (i). (Teletext) (i) (824)
6.30 Wilderness Edge. Outdoor drama series about a disparate group
of youngsters (i) (176)
7.00 Channel 4 News. Weather (704094) 7.30 Comment (228756)
8.00 Free for All. The final programme is a reconstruction of the events
leading up to Orville Blackwood's death in Broadmoor (8992)
8.30 Film: Wait 'Til Your Mother Gets Home (1952). Off-repeated
role-reversal comedy starring Paul Michael Gleason as an
unemployed football coach who stays at home to look after the
children while his wife goes out to work. With Dee Wallace.
Directed by Bill Persky. (Teletext) (46132176)
10.15 Men Talk: Women Bite Back
● CHOICE: The last in the series gives women the chance to refute
the nasty things said about them in previous programmes. Five
of the women take on tonight with the men from the past. It makes for
a crowded studio and an overheated discussion in which too many
people talk at once. The proceedings get off to a forthright start
with Ros deducing that all men are trained to manipulate and
Virginia saying she has rarely met a man who is honest. In the
circumstances the chaps are surprisingly conciliatory. What the
series has demonstrated, beyond the fact that some men are pigs
and others are not, is difficult to say. The danger is to draw
generalisations from specific cases which may or may not be
typical. But if relationships always went smoothly there would be
nothing for men, or indeed women, to talk about (i) (504027)
11.00 Film: El Amor Brujo (1986). This Spanish folk drama is the third
collaboration between choreographer-dancer Antonio Gades and
director Carlos Saura, featuring music by Manuel de Falla and told
using classical flamenco dance. Two gypsy children grow up and
apart. Starring Antonio Gades and Cristina Hoyos (581398)
Starting a new life in America: Viveca Lindfors (12.55am)
12.55am Film: Misplaced (1991). Louis Yansen's semi-autobiographical
tale of a woman and her teenage son who leave Poland during the
Solidarity uprising in 1981 and head for a new life in the United
States. Starring John Cameron Mitchell, Elzbieta Czerwiska and
Viveca Lindfors (934770). Ends at 2.40
VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers,
which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+
handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video sets. In the Video PlusCode for
the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121000 (call
charged at 40p per minute peak, 35p per minute off-peak). 50p per minute for VideoPlus+
5 luxury Home, Plantation Hotel, London SW11 3TH. VideoPlus+ (TM), Pluscode (TM)
and Video Programmer are trademarks of Genstar Marketing Ltd.

6.20 TSW Community Action
(581282) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (534)
7.30-8.00 Nature Watch (718) 8.00 Soap
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SPORT
24-28

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BUSINESS TIMES

THURSDAY AUGUST 27 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

No request for ERM realignment, states Bundesbank

Intervention helps pound to hold firm

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A RENEWED pledge from the Chancellor to hold the pound square in the exchange-rate mechanism, backed by direct intervention in the currency markets, lifted sterling for the first time since severe downward pressure set in a week ago.

Despite market alarm over remarks from Ralfut Jochimsen, a member of the Bundesbank's policy-making council, which suggested that the German central bank was in favour of a realignment of the ERM, the pound ended almost half a penny higher. At the official 4pm London market close, it stood at DM2.7970.

Although well below its DM2.8040 high for the day, reached mid-morning after overt sales of marks for sterling at DM2.7940 by the Bank of England, the closing rate was the first day-on-day gain since Tuesday last week. It left sterling only a penny

down since Friday, when the present outbreak of currency turbulence was triggered by the virtual free fall of the dollar. Dealers' estimates of the amount of intervention ranged between £300 million and £1 billion.

The Treasury was encouraged by the better tone sterling had established, even though it remains only less than two pennings from its absolute mark floor in the ERM. With reduced pressure across the ERM, and British money market pressure easing, the Treasury considers the prospect of an increase in the base rate less likely.

In a brief breakfast-time appearance on the Treasury steps, Mr Lamont said there were going to be "no devaluations, no leaving the ERM". The government, he said, was "determined to maintain sterling's parity and we will do whatever is necessary", a remark taken in the City to

include the possibility of a base rate hike. But advance reports of a speech by Herr Jochimsen, president of the central bank in the German regional state of North-Rhine Westphalia, subsequently undid some of the beneficial impact of the British authorities' actions. He said the "partially-present potential for realignment" has been suppressed for prestige reasons for years. The pound, the dollar and other currencies fell on that news.

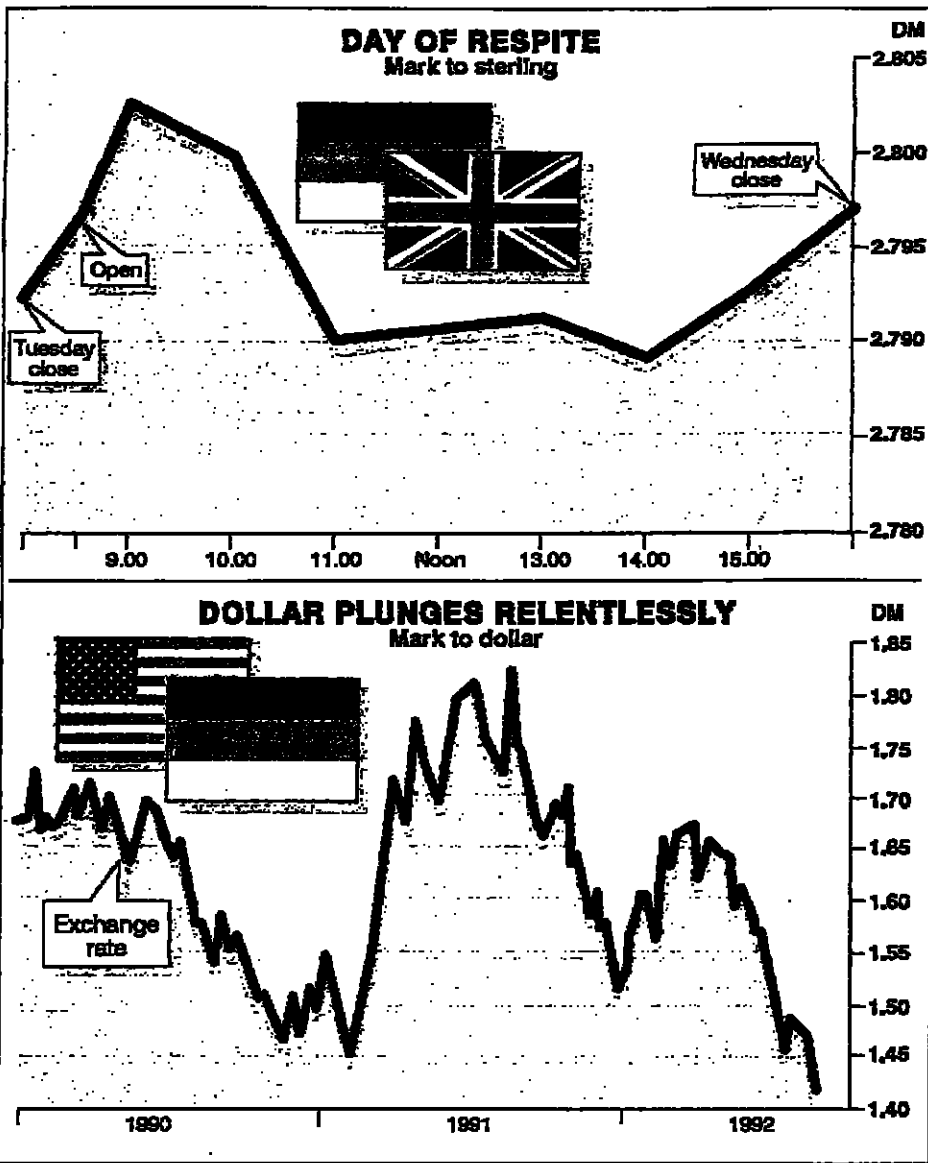
As council members' speeches are cleared by the Bundesbank, Herr Jochimsen's remarks were seen as an official attempt by the Bundesbank to float the idea of an ERM realignment. In London, the Treasury issued an immediate statement dismissing the idea that any ERM country wanted a realignment. The Bundesbank said later it was "not requesting a realignment". Mr Jochimsen clarified that there was "no immediate need" for parity changes.

Italy was also forced to intervene to defend the lira, while the Bank of France allowed overnight money rates to break through the informal 10 per cent ceiling in a move probably intended to ward off further pressure on the franc. Sweden and Finland, fearful of currency outflows to the mark, sharply raised key lending rates.

Poor market sentiment kept investors away from a £2.5 billion auction of long-dated government bonds. Although the issue was only covered 1.24 times, the authorities were likely to be pleased that the issue got away as well in the circumstances.

The dollar appeared to have consolidated above DM1.40, despite a sharp fall in prices for durable goods in America in July. The official data showed durable goods orders to factories slumping 3.4 per cent, the biggest drop in seven months, after a 2.8 per cent increase in June.

Lamont defence, page 1
Failing to star, page 2
Anatole Kaletsky, page 12
Leading article, page 13
Comment, page 21



City sees only a limited respite

By OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound's modest advance yesterday, despite the dismal economic backdrop, deep concern over European monetary union and a possible realignment of the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) currencies, left City opinion convinced that sterling has gained a respite, but only a limited one.

With the dollar stabilising close to the DM1.40, the general turbulence triggered by the American currency's free fall and central bank intervention is seen to have reduced some of the tension within the ERM.

But while many analysts believe the pound may be over the worst this side of the French referendum on September 20, the internal pressures of the ERM are by no means expected to disappear. Indeed, they are expected to reappear with renewed vigour after the French vote. At

though David Simmonds, currency analyst at Midland Montagu, thought Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, had failed to impress the markets with his reaffirmation of the government's commitment to stay in the ERM and not devalue, he believed sterling had reached the point where its downside was very limited.

Mr Simmonds considers it relatively easy for the Bank of England to hold sterling just above its absolute ERM floor against the mark for the rest of this week and probably until the French referendum. He notes that there are virtually no important economic data until mid-September, which should help take the spotlight off sterling.

Avinash Persaud, currency economist at UBS Phillips & Drew, said sterling had "escaped for the day and is likely to get through to September 20 at around present levels."

WH Smith rides recession with 26 per cent profit rise

By COLIN CAMPBELL

SIR Simon Hornby, chairman of WH Smith, the diversified high street retailer, says there is no magic wand that will end the recession.

The group would have to look to improved economies of scale and higher productivity while the tough trading climate lasts, but he was confident that WH Smith's strengths would continue to bring solid results.

In the year ended May 30, group sales rose by 8 per cent to £2.13 billion and pre-tax profits advanced by 26.6 per cent to £112.7 million. The final dividend is lifted from 8.5p to 9.1p a share, making 13.4p (12.5p) a share.

"In a year of deep recession, the group's businesses performed well, and we have increased virtually all our market shares," Sir Simon added.

Net profits benefited from a lower than expected tax charge and net earnings were 11.7 per cent higher at 31.5p a share. WH Smith shares rose 15p to 376p.

WH Smith retail increased its share of the video, stationery, magazines, book and greetings cards markets, and the group's distribution businesses had generally performed well. The video market continues to show good growth. The computer games market was particularly strong. DIY was, however, a difficult area, reflecting a depressed house market and intense price wars.

The group is planning to expand operations in America, though this would be a "step by step" approach. WH Smith had ambitions in Europe, but the preference for

any further development there is for joint ventures, Sir Simon added. He said: "We have nothing to fear" from the MMC enquiry into newspaper distribution arrangements, and does not view it as a threat to WH Smith. He reiterated his belief that the net book agreement works for the public good, and contends that without such an agreement the price of books would rise.

Do It All, the joint venture with Boots, had a difficult year in a depressed market, but in a total market that fell 9 per cent, WH Smith office supplies again outperformed, achieving a 10 per cent increase in sales. The division had won 67 new accounts worth £12 million a year.

Tempus, page 20

Ten investors considering offers for Canary Wharf

By ANGELA MACKAY

THE administrators to Olympia & York's Canary Wharf development, in London's Docklands, said they hoped it would be only "a matter of weeks" before expressions of interest in the £1.4 billion project were translated into definite offers.

Investors, however, were warned that they would not have the opportunity to "buy things on the cheap". Canary Wharf went into administration three months ago, owing about £530 million. Ten parties are considering making offers and have entered into confidentiality agreements with the administrators.

Stephen Adamson, Alan Bloom and Nigel Hamilton, the administrators from Ernst & Young, confirmed that Ca-

navary Wharf's creditors had voted this week to continue the administration process, in line with Ernst & Young's proposals.

Mr Adamson said the European Investment Bank, which has already invested £100 million in Canary Wharf, was thinking of putting in more cash to help meet the government's demand for £400 million for the Jubilee Underground line extension.

Mr Adamson said the bank would demand "a level of comfort" before lending any more cash to the project. One of Canary Wharf's bankers said syndicate members would fight any new investment that usurped their positions as first secured lenders. A £280 million claim by Credit Suisse

First Boston, relating to its building on Canary Wharf's Cabot Square, was being considered, Mr Adamson said. The claim related to contractual obligations on matters such as rent and occupancy levels. Time was not of the essence and he hoped the dispute could be settled amicably. Meantime, CSFB was supporting the administration.

Creditors had expressed concern about "several tens of millions of pounds" of performance bonds still in existence which meant contractors incurred steep bank fees. Mr Adamson said they planned to discharge those contracts where it did not detract from the value of the development and the overall benefit to creditors.

GRE halves losses to £39 million

By OUR CITY STAFF

GUARDIAN Royal Exchange, the composite insurance group, has provided further evidence that the UK insurance market began a strong recovery in the first half of the year in announcing that it has more than halved its losses for the six months to end-June. The deficit before tax was reduced from £88 million to £39 million, of which mortgage indemnity and IRA bomb damage accounted for £26 million. The group traded profitably in the second quarter of the year.

UK underwriting losses fell by £55 million to £125 million. Interim dividend is reduced from 4.4p to 2.5p.

Tempus, page 20

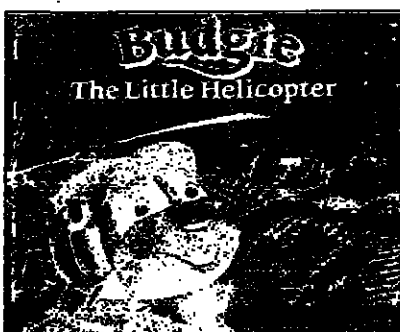
How Budgie could wake Sleepy Kids

By MATTHEW BOND

JOHN BRYAN's recent sojourn in St Tropez may have done little to enhance his reputation as a financial adviser, but the Duchess of York may yet be indebted to her friend for a visit to the Côte d'Azur earlier this year.

For it was at the Cannes film festival that Mr Bryan found the Duchess a buyer for the film and merchandising rights to her *Budgie the Little Helicopter* books. That buyer was Sleepy Kids, the US animation and merchandising company. The small print of the deal has become one of the few secrets the Duchess has left. Yesterday, Sleepy Kids was doing its utmost to keep it that way.

There was, however, the £300,000 that the company seemed to need in a hurry. Exercising the *Budgie* option at a time when the company was making a loss had "placed a severe strain upon the group's financial resources". According-



Film deal: details remain secret

ly, shareholders were invited to subscribe for new shares in the company at 7p. Martin Powell, joint managing directors of Sleepy Kids, was confident that the project's commercial prospects had not been affected by the media attention focused on its creator. He said: "There

has been no bad publicity about *Budgie the Helicopter*." The company had been "inundated" with merchandising proposals, he added, and anyway, there were lots of authors of children's books in the past who had led interesting lives.

The board was in accord about the company's *Budgie*-enhanced future. "The directors cannot over-emphasise the importance of this, in order for the group to benefit from the immediate income which is expected to flow from the merchandising of *Budgie*."

Mr Powell said firm commitments for about 2.2 million shares have already been received from "institutions and high net worth individuals". But he did not believe the Duchess had received any financial advice that might lead to her gracing the company's shareholder registers. That may be one of her wiser decisions, as Sleepy Kids yesterday announced an interim pre-tax loss of £109,000 and passed its dividend.

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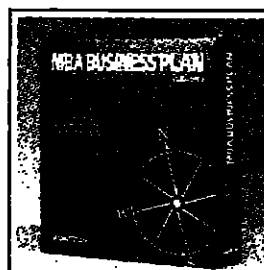
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Exchange index 92.3 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

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FT 30 share 1676.2 (-4.8)
FT-SE 100 2285.0 (+4.0)
New York Dow Jones 3243.57 (+11.35)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 16541.65 (+160.88)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10%
3-month interbank: 10%-10.5%
3-month eligible bill: 10%-10.5%
US: Prime Rate: 9%
Federal Funds: 3%
3-month Treasury bill: 3 1/8-3 1/8%
30-year bonds: 9 7/8-9 7/8%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£: \$1.9855
DM: £2.7970
Sfr: £2.5004
FF: £4.7945
Yen: £24.84
£: index: 92.3
ECU: £0.786154
SDR: £0.742577
ECU1.377118
SDR1.346661
London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$340.35 PM \$338.50
Close \$338.50-339.00
£170.25-170.75
New York:
Comex \$ 339.05-339.55

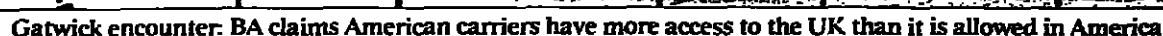
NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) \$19.80/bbl (\$19.75)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 136.8 July (1987=100)
* Denotes midday trading price

BY PATRICIA TEHAN



By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

They argue that the proposed deal would give BA

"For more than 50 years, US law and precedent have prohibited foreign interests

cess to 55 million US Airways passengers and 200 million tons of air cargo a year?

American opponents—must be stopped from putting their special interests before the public interest”

They argue that American carriers already have greater access to UK and European

FROM LULU YU IN HONG KONG

for Swire Pacific, its parent group, which announces its interim results today. Swire focuses on property and avia-

tions, especially in Hong Kong and Japan. There had been strong growth in Taiwan but the UK and Australia were

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the Hang Seng index leapt 187 points, or 3.5 per cent to close at 5,178.

World markets rose 20

THE Institute of Directors is opening a government-backed

UNITED Uniform Services, a manufacturer and supplier of uniforms in America, reported pre-tax profits of £1.46 million (£1.42 million) in the six months to end-June. Turnover

exceeding targets for the first quarter, sales and margins suffered in the second quarter. Trading conditions continue to be difficult in the independent bakery sector.

There is a loss per share of 3.51p (3.25p profit) and no interim dividend (1.5p). The slump was blamed on a drop in trade. Staff numbers have been reduced 20 per cent since the year end. The company said conditions were the worst since

year end. The company said conditions were the worst since the second world war. The shares fell 17p to 35p.

[illegible]

Stable dollar and bonds help Dow to early gain

Sir Simon Hornby chair-

Losses were cut more spectacularly. The UK underwriting loss, the main blackspot, fell from £180 million to £125 million despite £10 million on

Strong performers: Sir Simon Hornby, left, and Sir Malcolm Field of WH Smith

The pre-tax loss tumbled from £88 million to £39 million with a profit being earned in the traditionally more benign second quarter. GRE is not heavily exposed to Hurricane Andrew, which might still cost £10 million. Barring any new nasties, the market is looking for only a small loss of perhaps £10 million for the year. Some optimists expect breakeven or better.

The cut in the interim dividend from 4.4p to 2.5p is to spread the big cut in last year's final and implies a full-year payment at least maintained at 7p. That would leave the shares yielding 7.4 per cent at an unchanged 126p. This looks a reasonably safe high income given the recovery trend, but potential is greater elsewhere.

The solvency margin has edged down to 40 per cent despite a calmly timed long-term put option on £150 million of equity holdings and

Wace

CONSIDERING the astonishing brouhaha that threatened to engulf Wace in February, it is remarkable that the printing services company found time to make any profits at all.

The traditionally stronger second half should see borrowing costs come down, naturally, but a more permanent reduction may have to await an improvement in the property market. Cost control measures appear to be working, particularly in America, where operating profits rose 55 per cent to £3.7 million. In Europe, too, operating profits advanced to £2.2 million. But this was no denying the British company's fierce competition, especially in commercial, letter printing, saw operating profits drop 37 per cent to £4.3 million.

Full-year profits could hit £16.5 million, slightly down on last year but enough to maintain the final dividend at 6p, giving a prospective total of 8.25p. At 90p, on a p/e multiple of nine and a yield of 6.7 per cent, the shares look attractive.

news of its bonus plan being approved by the Stock Exchange of Singapore. The

But the Dax bounced back to end 4.37 points higher at 1,473.28. (Reuters)

[illegible]

Hard fur

The continued absence of consumer confidence continues to weigh heavily on most retailers and partly accounted



In building materials, there were setbacks for **BPB Industries**, 2p to 138p, **Blue Circle Industries**, 7p to 155p,

much of the week, fearing high insurance claims resulting from the effects of Hurricane Andrew.

Commercial Union dipped 2 1/2 to 44 1/2 and General

English China Clays was another dull market before its trading news next month, with the price falling 8p to 442p.

Dineco (WAL)	39,	32,	NY Times A
Dominion East	39,	39,	Newmarket Mass
Dowdell (J&J)	58,	57,	Ning Mahawk
Dover Corp	41,	41,	Nike 2
Dow Chemicals	53,	54,	NI Industries
Dow Jones	33,	33,	Nordstrom
Dotmar	19,	20	Nordich Stern
Duke Power	36,	36,	Nizza State Pw
Dun & Bradstreet	55,	55,	Northwest Corp

29%	27	Wal-Mart Stores	58	57%
45%	46	Werner-Lambert	66%	66%
19%	19%	Waste Management	37%	32%
70%	70%	Wells Fargo	68%	68%
7%	7%	Westinghouse El	16%	16%
28	28	Weyerhaeuser	33	32%
54%	53	Whirlpool	36%	36%
43%	43%	Whitman	12%	12%
39%	35%	Winn-Dixie	49%	49%

[illegible]

THE TIMES

Ising question
KPMG

SUN

USAir deal runs into turbulence

The full power of the mighty US airline lobby is now ranged up against British Airways over its plans to invest \$750 million in the struggling USAir group. The battle promises to be a bloody one which BA must win if it is to maintain forward momentum in the next few years after the failure of planned links with Sabena, KLM and others including one of the protesters, United Airlines in the US. But the leading US carriers will do everything within their powers to block the entry of what is arguably the world's strongest (in a financial sense) and most profitable competitor into their market. The three airlines and two parcel delivery groups which have just launched a campaign to block BA, American, Delta, United, Federal Express and UPS, would all claim to be free traders in their dying breath. But like so many champions of competition, they waver when an aggressive newcomer appears inside their own back yard.

The "Nimby" five are characterising the USAir deal as a takeover of a sizable US carrier by a foreign interest in direct violation of laws that severely restrict non-American involvement in the transportation and media industries. In fact BA would not be allowed to exercise more than 25 per cent of the votes in USAir under existing American law, even though it will eventually own 44 per cent of USAir's common stock when its initial holdings of convertible stock are switched. BA would also have no more than a quarter of the seats on USAir's 16-man board, certainly not enough to give outright control. However, since BA clearly wishes to have some say in a massive investment, it will have certain blocking powers when some issues are before the board. This is likely to be the critical focus of legal arguments as the planned deal proceeds through the regulatory process.

Decisions on key matters of finance, budgeting and acquisition strategy will need a "super-majority" of 80 per cent of USAir's votes to approve them. BA may well have some powers of veto, but surely not even within the complex of the American legal system does this amount to control.

Despite statements to the contrary, the British airline industry suspects that their US counterparts see an opportunity to lever concessions from Britain over access to domestic routes. The fact is that BA would revitalise USAir at a time when most leading US carriers are enfeebled by vast debts. British regulators will see through this at once.

Hard funding

The government completed its auction of long-term debt yesterday, but only just. Bids rolled in at 1.24 times the £2.5 billion of Treasury 2017 84 per cent available. The lowest previous cover for an auction was 1.62 times. It has been as high as 4.5 times. The closeness of yesterday's auction is an early warning of how much difficulty the government could face in funding future borrowing, especially if the French vote against enactment of the Maastricht treaty and the stresses already apparent in the European rate mechanism become intolerable.

This year the government's borrowing requirement is estimated to reach between £30 billion and £32 billion by independent economists. Next year something more like £46 billion is forecast, ironically reaching 6 per cent of expected GDP, and on the scale of post-reunification German requirements.

A British deficit of these proportions will require a healthy pound to attract the overseas money needed to fund it. No one is taking bets on the pound's health ahead of the dreaded September 20 French vote. As one economist put it last night, present official British economic policy is to pray for a "yes" vote in France.

Women have opened boardroom doors but lack executive power

Liz Dolan asks if the Opportunity 2000 campaign, launched last year, has cracked the glass ceiling over women's promotion

When Louise Botting, the broadcaster and financial consultant, joined the main board of LWT Holdings this month, the words "token woman" sprang anew to the lips of the more cynical observers.

The problem is a common one for women who have spent their lives breaking new ground in previously all-male settings. Ms Botting has a number of "firsts" to her credit. In her twenties, she became the first female investment analyst at Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank. Five years ago, she became the first female member of the Top Salaries Review Board. In March this year, she became the first female director of General Accident, the insurance company.

The first woman on the board will always be in danger of attracting the "token" tag from which subsequent female appointees are saved. The problem is already diminishing slowly as more companies announce the appointment of female directors. While not yet a flood, there has been a definite increase in the number of women entering the boardroom over the past year, a move which may owe something to the launch of Opportunity 2000 last October.

As the numbers grow, more companies face the problem of whether to highlight the sex of their new board member. This is a thornier topic now than it was even a few years ago, when to appoint a woman was considered *per se* a "good thing". Nowadays, a growing number of companies will go out of their way to deny any part gender may have played in the selection process. Of Ms Botting's appointment, General Accident said: "We don't discriminate between men and women. It so happened Louise Botting had the background and pedigree. Her personal finance background will be an asset."

Of the appointment in January of Prue Leith, restaurateur and cookery writer, to the board of the Leeds Permanent building society, Malcolm Barr, the president, said: "Prue Leith was appointed to the board because of her remarkable business record, not because of her sex." Turning the subject on its head, he added: "However, in a world where men still dominate the boardroom, a woman needs to be especially talented or determined in order to succeed. She certainly has these qualities."

Some female high-flyers take the same line. One such is Mair Barnes, the managing director of Woolworth who became a non-executive director of Abbey National this year. She has always refused to discuss the fact she is a woman because she says she wants to be judged solely on her merits as a retailer. Others, such as



Sex appeal: Anna Vinton, Cadbury Schweppes director, believes women add a useful extra dimension

Anna Vinton, co-chairman of The Reject Shop group, are happy to discuss the point. Mrs Vinton says she was invited to join the board of Cadbury Schweppes 18 months ago purely because she was a woman.

She says: "The chairman [Sir Graham Day] is Canadian and very pro-women. When he arrived on the board, he took one look and said: 'Do something'. Women behave differently from men. They reason differently, and that adds a very useful extra dimension."

Mary Baker, who serves on the boards of Barclays, the Prudential, Avon and MFI, said: "A board is always looking for a range of experience from its non-executive directors. It is perfectly obvious a woman is going to have had different experiences from a man. A board without any representation from half the human race is going to be unbalanced. But the track record must stand up. You can't just go out on the street and take the first woman you find." Mrs Baker's first directorship

was with Thames Television. When she was appointed in 1975, the company was keen to develop its daytime television service. "They consciously wanted a woman with children at home who knew what people did during the day," she says.

Mrs Baker has been closely involved with equal opportunities legislation and is currently head of the ginger group, Women in Management. Any company that invites her on to its board is therefore making a tacit commitment to the career interests of the women on its staff.

She claims that Thames was the first corporation in this country formally to establish an equal opportunities policy. Barclays followed suit a few years later.

Barclays, she claims, has always had a first-rate woman in charge of the equal opportunities programme. "Right from the start, they have set targets and monitored progress. You

can initiate policies until the cows come home, but unless they're monitored at a senior level, you won't get results."

MFI, whose board she joined in June, is also "grasping the issue. It's very exciting. The chairman, Derek Hunt, is very committed to getting this movement going."

Mrs Vinton said: "Cadbury Schweppes is now actively looking for women to promote. They have identified the women with the ability to become executive directors in ten years' time. If they're very good, they could easily end up running the company."

Both Mrs Vinton and Mrs Baker are closely involved with Opportunity 2000. Mrs Vinton said: "Opportunity 2000 may have an effect on companies who have not been as forward-looking as Cadbury's. It's human nature to follow the crowd."

As more women choose to spend their entire adult life working in industry, a new breed of female director is emerging whose experi-

ence is closer to that of the men with whom they serve. The head of one leading company made it clear to colleagues recently that, although he was actively seeking a woman director, he did not want "one of the great and the good".

He wanted, and got, a career business woman, appointed solely for the expertise she had acquired as a high-powered company executive. "We knew what he meant," a spokesman for the company said. "He didn't want any of the 'if it's Tuesday it must be XYZ company' brigade. Or those who got the job because of their title, or because they're married to a famous name, or once sat on a committee."

Margaret Brewster of ProNed, which campaigns for the appointment of more non-executive directors of either sex, said: "As women's careers have progressed in the last few years, many have developed to the stage where they are ready to take on non-executive roles. They have reached a level in their own company where they can be released to take on other duties."

The Halifax building society, which has no female directors and no plans to appoint any, says most suitable candidates are still battling their way through to the upper echelons. David Gilchrist, general manager, said it took time for the effect of initiatives such as Opportunity 2000 to work its way through to board level. "Directors are chosen for what they can give to the board. Building societies nowadays are involved with more than mortgages. They have estate agents and European operations. The whole spectrum is there now."

The Woolwich obviously feels differently. It has just appointed its fourth female director. The first, Patricia Mann, a vice-president of J Walter Thompson, the advertising agency, has been on the board for ten years. A spokesman for the Woolwich said: "We have a very positive attitude to women. They make up 75 per cent of our staff. They also have the biggest single influence on homebuying and were one of the main reasons why the building society movement grew so fast in the seventies."

However, despite the welcome growth in new female non-executive directors, the real test is yet to come. That is, the appointment of women as executive directors. These are still a very rare breed.

A survey published by the Institute of Policy Studies last November found that women accounted for nearly 5 per cent of all UK company directors. However, according to the Crawfords Directory of City Connections, published at the beginning of this year, of the 4,000-plus top directors in the country — chairmen, chief executives, managing directors and finance directors — only 20 are women. And most of those are finance directors.

Mary Baker, veteran of numerous boards, said: "Right from the start, I have always felt that I was there as a non-executive, to hold the door open to women on the executive side, because that's where the real power lies."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Taxing question for KPMG

IF THE Queen is really considering paying income tax on her personal wealth, as has been reported, the change will make an interesting variation in the work of KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountancy firm. KPMG is responsible for the annual audit of the privy purse and, so far, has not had to bother with anything as commonplace as taxes. According to KPMG, the choice of auditor is a personal appointment of the Queen and a member of the Peat family has filled the role since the reign of Edward VII. In 1987, the position passed to 42-year-old Michael Peat, who attended Eton and Oxford, and a KPMG partner, who, since 1990, has been seconded to the royal household and Buckingham Palace as director of finance and property services. According to Buckingham Palace, the "privy purse" includes all the Queen's private finances and income from the royal estates, excluding income from the Civil List. The Queen, who is estimated to have a fortune of about £5 billion, received £3.1 million last year from the Duchy of Lancaster alone. With taxes not a consideration in modern times, the preoccupation in the royal household in recent years has, as is well known, been controlling personal spending. "In every organisation, people have to think about efficiency and value for money and the royal household is no different," Mr Peat was quoted as saying when his secondment began.



Who better as the new head of Soab in Sweden than someone called Keith Butler? Wheelhouse? Evidently a man destined not to escape his name. Butler-Wheelhouse previously ran Delta Motor Corp in South Africa.

Surrey soap

A SOAP opera called Guildford, full of intrigue and passion and littered with chaps in ten-gallon hats, may not sound the most likely scenario — but it may yet happen. Ranger Oil has just joined fellow oil companies Arco, Fina and Esso in moving its headquarters to Guildford, adding to the city's growing reputation as the Dallas of Surrey. Julian Methrell, a Ranger Oil spokesman, says oil companies and drillers have been

rushing to relocate near each other and have even set up the 0483 Club for oil men — 0483 is the telephone code for Guildford. Who will play the part of JR is still anybody's guess, but Methrell insists Fred J. Dymond, Ranger Oil's Canadian president, is not right for the role. "He doesn't wear a stetson, he's of medium build and quite slight, and I would suggest that he presides over a rather more harmonious managerial dynasty," Methrell says.

Hedged bets

WHILE Wall Street is overwhelmingly backing George Bush for a second term as president, two of the biggest investment banks have hedged their bets with political donations. Goldman Sachs and Shearson Lehman have donated to both Bush and Bill Clinton, the Democratic candidate, but not in equal terms. According to the National Library on Money & Politics in Washington, Goldman, whose senior partner and co-chairman Robert Rubin, is mentioned as a likely Treasury secretary under a Clinton administration, has contributed \$98,700 to the Democrats, but only \$37,500 to the Republicans. By contrast, Shearson has chipped in \$23,000 to Bush and \$19,750 to Clinton. Contributing without a hedge: Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch, First Boston, Dillon Read, Prudential Securities and PaineWebber. They have given Bush a total of \$190,500.

DEBRA ISAAC

CBI has shown its commitment to solving problem of late payments

From Richard Brucciani

Sir, *The Times* cites the results of Trade Indemnity's Quarterly Industrial Trends Survey as evidence that the CBI's Code of Prompt Payment Practice is not working (Business Comment, August 18).

The prevalence of late payment is a long-standing problem and one which needs to be addressed from a number of angles. The Code of Practice launched in February is just one of the CBI's own initiatives in this area. Other activities include monitoring European Commission activity and lobbying for improvements in court procedures for debt recovery. We are also highlighting

the role companies themselves can play in avoiding payment problems through effective financial management. Trade Indemnity's survey showed that a quarter of respondents had updated overdue accounts procedures in the past three months, with more than one in five carrying out credit checks on customers. The CBI is keen to encourage the development of such practice and will shortly be launching a series of seminars on credit control.

The Code itself is having a significant impact in raising awareness of the late payment problem. Over 400 organisations have already pledged support for its principles, in-

cluding a number of large parent companies and trade associations — an indication of support on the part of many other businesses.

The CBI's efforts to ease the burden of late payment on small businesses stem from our strong commitment to this sector. Over two thirds of businesses represented by the CBI are smaller firms and we have therefore consistently taken a lead from our Smaller Firms Council in formulating policy on this issue.

We are pleased to note the support of *The Times* for our efforts to reduce delays in the courts. We have submitted a package of proposals to the Lord Chancellor, which we

believe could achieve major improvements in the efficiency and speed of the debt recovery system. But whilst it is certainly important that the legal system should provide an effective final recourse, we should not be deterred from trying to reduce the number of suppliers needing to go to court to obtain payment of a debt.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BRUCCIANI,
Chairman, CBI Smaller Firms Council,
Confederation of British Industry,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street,
WC1.

Pensioners abroad unjustly treated

From Mr J. R. Burges

Sir, The letter from Mr L. M. Courtenay (Business Letters, August 20) spoke of the denial to a UK retirement pensioner living abroad of any increase in the UK retirement pension introduced after the pensioner emigrated, even though all required contributions had been paid.

The justice of this restriction is not obvious — why should pensioners' choice of where to live affect their pension entitlement?

Falling a better explanation, the uncharitable might think that it rests on nothing more than cynical mean-mindedness, for such people have no UK votes and their interests can therefore be safely disregarded.

So may I, through your columns, ask the Treasury, the Department of Social Security, or whoever has primary responsibility, to identify the statutory basis for the existence of the restriction and to spell out the logic justifying its imposition? Yours faithfully,
J. R. BURGES,
Little Acre,
Crossfield Place,
Weybridge,
Surrey.

Funding pensions for full face value

From Mr John Langton

Sir, While agreeing with recent correspondents who claim that the Retail Price Index is not an appropriate basis for pension adjustment, I would just note the plight of many pensioners of major company schemes who have been lucky to receive discretionary increases of around 70 per cent of the annual movement of the RPI.

A relationship with the earnings index could give a more sensible basis for appraisal for all pensions but this is a forlorn hope for most of us.

Good reasons to continue with the RPI

From Mr W. K. Duncan

Sir, I agree with Mr Carson (RPI and pensions) that the RPI is not obviously a good basis for setting pensions, but we must be careful about changing to another index.

The July 1992 figure for the increase in RPI is 3.7, but food and fuel and light went up less

than this. Increasing the weight given to these items would therefore have produced a lower RPI.

If inflation were to fall to zero, it would be interesting to see companies having to increase contributions and forgo contribution holidays, to fund the pensions which would maintain their full face value.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LANGTON,
Lower Cottage,
Bantons Lane,
Ticknall,
Derby.

Share certificates

From Mr A. J. Oxley

Sir, Letters from Edward Lewis and Dr Ian Jessiman (August 14 and 19) highlight disclaimers by companies and their registrars of any responsibility for non-delivery of share certificates. This can cause much trouble and expense to the innocent individual shareholder. Only rarely will replacements be freely offered, as in the Abbey National flotation fiasco, when thousands of certificates went missing. This is scandalous practice, with its underlying assumption that the institution is infallible and any loss must be the silly investor's fault, is now the standard (including privatisation and rights issues). Some 25 years ago there was a press campaign against the then common practice of dyes and cleaners disclaiming, in small print, all responsibility for damage to clothes entrusted to them, which led to Parliament outlawing the practice. The same is required now re share

certificates and (eventually) Taurus faults. In any case, costly indemnities are a nonsense (the law can be applied against anyone selling shares twice over). Firms should meet the cost of lost certificates: not because they are at fault, but it is hard to say where the fault lies, and a negligible expense to the company may be large to the shareholder. Yours faithfully,
A. J. OXLEY,
18 Marriott Close,
Oxford.

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Foolish Heart to relish longer trip

FOOLISH Heart, with Michael Roberts in the saddle, looks capable of winning the Cranleigh Stakes at Lingfield today.

Trained at Newmarket by Neil Graham, who first sprang to prominence five years ago when he temporarily held the licence at West Hildesley while Dick Head was convalescing, Foolish Heart has finished in the first two in all her races.

Either side of winning a race for maidens on the all-weather track at Southwell where she was also partnered by Roberts, Foolish Heart has been runner-up twice to that useful filly Marlette, initially on her debut at Wolverhampton and later at Goodwood, where she succumbed by only half-a-length.

Judged on the way that she stuck to her guns and ran on in the closing stages of that hotly-contested race over seven furlongs, Foolish Heart will relish the longer distance of today's race and, at a difference of 5lb, she is preferred now to Known Approach, who has also been a victim of Marlette this summer after winning at Salisbury.

Last time out, though, Known Approach only managed to beat one at Goodwood, albeit in the group three Lanson Champagne Stakes.

Rapporteur, who has become a great favourite with those who race regularly at Lingfield since he has now won 13 times there — ten of those being on the Equitrac — returns to his happy hunt-

seconds to Sherifmuf and Viardot at Doncaster and Haydock respectively, after he had beaten Rajai at Leicester.

Armed with clearly not his last time out. However, there is a rest which will have freshened him up, he can be fancied to give a good account of himself again.

Fairy Story, who was a creditable second to the promising Royal Diva at Redcar last time, looks the answer to the puzzle posed by the Tonbridge Nursery.

Otherwise, a first-and-last race double for Lester Piggott would be the highlight on the Surrey track with his brother-in-law, Robert Armstrong, supplying the ammunition for the first leg in the shape of Nobby Barnes in the Sandstead Maiden Stakes and his

wife, Susan, following suit later with Liffey River in the Penbury Handicap.

At Edinburgh, Thornton Gate is napped to win the Edmonds Handicap in the belief that he is ideally drawn in stall No 14 to make telling use of his proven ability to lead all the way.

On a track as sharp as Edinburgh those drawn high have a decided advantage in races over seven furlongs since they are near the rails.

Thornton Gate made all the running when he won his last race at Ayr and at Thirsk before that, and I maintain that he will prove hard to catch again today now that he has also shown that he clearly responds to the pair of blinkers that he will be wearing again this afternoon.

Eddery has further title setback as appeal fails

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

PAT Eddery's slim hopes of catching Michael Roberts in the jockeys' championship were effectively ended yesterday when he lost his appeal against a five-day riding ban.

The suspension was imposed by the York stewards at last week's Ebor meeting followed his riding of Silver Wizard in the Scottish Equitable Gimcrack Stakes when the champion jockey went for a virtually non-existent gap between Splendend, the winner, and Green's Bid, both trained by Paul Cole.

The Jockey Club's disciplinary committee, chaired by Sir Piers Bengough, viewed recordings of the race and heard evidence from Richard Quinn, rider of Green's Bid, and Alan Munro, Splendend's jockey.

Sir Piers, together with Judy Thompson and Anthony Mildmay-White, decided Silver Wizard had interfered with both Green's Bid and Splendend due to careless riding by Eddery.

Geoff Lewis, trainer of Silver Wizard, also failed in his appeal against the demotion of his horse from second to third place.

Eddery, the nine times champion jockey, emerged from the Portman Square hearing to say: "I am not pleased by this result. I was not worried about the jockeys' championship when I came here. All I was worried about was the verdict of the stewards."

Lewis added: "Obviously we are not happy but there is nothing we can do other than to accept it."

Eddery, who is trailing Roberts by 22 winners, has now missed 18 days through suspension this season.

On April 24 the Sandown stewards imposed a four-day ban on him for careless riding on Modemore. Eddery received a further four-day suspension on May 10 for careless riding on Rainbow Corner in the French 2,000 Guineas.

The Sandown stewards handed out a five-day ban on July 15 after finding the champion jockey guilty of improper use of the whip on Kandy Secret.

Eddery will miss the bank holiday meetings as his latest ban begins tomorrow.

However, the stewards decided to return the deposits of both Eddery and Lewis.

Cecil's hopes rest with Allegan, likely to have his prep race in the March Stakes at Goodwood on Saturday. Other Leger possibilities are Anchor, Rain Rider and Sun Seeker could be in opposition there.

ACCEPTORS: Allegan, Anchor, Aeneas, Borri Scot, Landowner, Mack The Partner, Rain Rider, Shualtan, Sun Seeker, Young Foremaster, Hyena.

There is a supplementary stage, which could see more runners, but it looks as though the tradition of a small field will continue.

Ten went to post last year when Toulon was victorious, the biggest field for seven years.

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MANDARIN	THUNDERER
2.00 Nobby Barnes.	2.00 Gold Blade.
2.20 The Last Emperor.	2.30 Kato Royale.
3.00 Armet.	3.00 Pelorus.
3.30 Foolish Heart.	3.30 Foolish Heart.
4.00 Fairy Story.	4.00 EMBANKMENT (nap).
4.30 Liffey River.	4.30 Moby World.

RICHARD EVANS: 3.00 Rapporteur. 4.00 EMBANKMENT (nap). Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Nobby Barnes. 3.00 Sword Master. 3.30 FOOLISH HEART (nap). Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 JORDYWRATH.

GOING: GOOD (TURF); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER) SIS. DRAW: HIGH NUMBERS BEST (TURF); LOW NUMBERS BEST (ALL-WEATHER)

2.00 SANDERSTAD MAIDEN STAKES									
(All-weather: 3-Y-O; £2,217.77) (7 runners)									
1 (6)	55-	ALBERT THE BOLD 455 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	L. Dufford 90				
2 (6)	5-0	GOLD BLADE 129 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	R. Crampton 80				
3 (6)	000000	GRAND FELLOW 45 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	A. Hume 80				
4 (6)	40	HANCOCK 45 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	G. Dufford 80				
5 (6)	502222	NUBBY BARNES 8 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	L. Piggott 80				
6 (6)	2225	DOUBLE SHIFT 50 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	R. Crampton 80				
7 (4)	501111	NUBBY BARNES 8 (P)	(Jas J. Sample) M 1.	Piggott 9-0	R. Crampton 80				
RETURNS: 6-4 Double Shift, 5-4 Nubby Barnes, 4-2 Grand Fello, 3-8 Albert The Bold, 3-4 Hancock, 3-4 Gold Blade, 2-5 Nubby Barnes									
1991: MAIDEN, 9-0 M. Dufford, 9-0 J. Piggott, 11-7 L. Piggott									

BETTING: 6-4 Double Shift, 15-4 Nobby Barnes, 5-2 Gold Blade, 4-1 Albert the Bold, 4-1 Grand Fellow, 25-1 Nobby Barnes.

1991: MAHILL 9-0 W Carson (P) 10-11 Dufford 13 m

FORM FOCUS
ALBERT THE BOLD 5th of 9 in 9 races since 1991. In Lingfield (2), good to fast, good. GOLD BLADE 1st of 15 in 15 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. GRAND FELLOW 4th of 12 in 12 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. NUBBY BARNES 8th of 12 in 12 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. DOUBLE SHIFT 5th of 12 in 12 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. NUBBY BARNES 8th of 12 in 12 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good.

FORM FOCUS

THE LAST EMPRESS beat *Cassidy Mare* & *11-runner* *Cathedral* (1m 6f, good) sale. **GHOSTLY SLOW** beat *Stallion* (2m 2f, 7-runner) *Widdowson* (1m 6f, good) and *Widdowson* (1m 6f, good) with *TEMBURAH* (2m, better all) 2 3rd.

KATE ROYALE 1st 2nd of 3 to *Upper House* in

Newsflash (1m 4f, good to firm) cleaner. **RICH PICKINGS** 1st 5th of 16 to *Milne Pia Op* in *Widdowson* (1m 6f, good) *Widdowson*

BETTING: 4-5 The Last Emperor, 7-2 Kate Royal, 5-2 Windy Hill, 15-2 Maine de Proud, 14-1 High Pitches, 25-1 Jucks Pitch.

1991: VANDER 4-5-8 M Hume (P) 10-11 M Hume 13 m

FORM FOCUS
THE LAST EMPRESS last 12 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. GUNTER 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. KATE ROYAL 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. MAINE DE PROUD 18th of 18 in 18 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. HIGH PITCHES 48th of 48 in 48 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good.

MANDARIN	THUNDERER
2.10 Catherine's Well.	2.10 Miss Vazatta.
2.40 Stingray City.	2.40 Stingray City.
3.10 Barina Telenyanh.	3.10 Principal Player.

BETTING: 5-1 Canny Chrome, 4-1 Pelorus, 5-1 Kate Royal, 5-1 Hancock, 10-1 Smiling Gem, 12-1 GUNTER, 25-1 Nobby Barnes, 25-1 Doctors Remedy.

1991: BELMONT 5-4-8 M Hume (P) 10-11 M Hume 13 m

FORM FOCUS
CANNY CHROME 1st of 22 in 22 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. PELORUS 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. KATE ROYAL 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. HANCOCK 45th of 45 in 45 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. ARNOLD 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. SMILING GEM 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. GUNTER 28th of 28 in 28 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. NUBBY BARNES 8th of 12 in 12 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good. DOCTORS REMEDY 10th of 10 in 10 races since 1991. In Lingfield (1), good to fast, good.

MANDARIN	THUNDERER
2.10 Catherine's Well.	2.10 Miss Vexette.
2.40 Singing City.	2.40 Singing City.
3.10 Racing Telegraph.	3.10 Principal Player.
3.40 Thornton Gate (nap).	3.40 Thornton Gate.
4.10 Million Rooms.	4.10 Super Summit.
4.40 Mingus.	4.40 Mingus.

RICHARD EVANS: 4.10 Arjet.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST. SIS

9	66	CELESTINE (Hawley) 14 (J) (Cousin) J. Bolding 8-0	J. Widdall 80
10	(7)	ROBMYN (Hawley) J. Johnson 8-0	J. Widdall 80
11	(7)	5 HIGH NOONANCE 10 (P) (J) (Cousin) J. Bolding 8-0	James Watson 77-79
12	(8)	5 HIGH NOONANCE 10 (P) (J) (Cousin) J. Bolding 8-0	Dean Nicholson 83
13	(7)	ARCADE (Hawley) 14 (J) (Cousin) J. Bolding 8-0	L. Charnock 80
14	(7)	POETRY ACADEMY 10 (P) (J) (Cousin) J. Bolding 8-0	L. Charnock 80

2.10 PERSONA APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,380.50) (12 runners)

1 (6) 5022-0 CATERPILLER 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
2 (6) 0222-0 MISS WILLOW 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
3 (6) 0100-0 LONDON LASS 5 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
4 (6) 0222-0 MISS WILLOW 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
5 (6) 0100-0 LONDON LASS 5 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
6 (6) 0222-0 MISS WILLOW 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
7 (6) 0100-0 LONDON LASS 5 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
8 (6) 0222-0 MISS WILLOW 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
9 (6) 0100-0 LONDON LASS 5 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
10 (6) 0222-0 MISS WILLOW 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
11 (6) 0100-0 LONDON LASS 5 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0
12 (6) 0222-0 MISS WILLOW 28 (P) (Jas J. Sample) M 1. Piggott 9-0

BETTING: 4-1 Miss Willow, 5-2 Catherine's Well, 5-2 London Lass, 10-1 Miss Willow, 10-1 London Lass, 10-1 Miss Willow, 10-1 London Lass.

TIME 7:40 RACECARD									
126 (12) 0-0432 5000 TIMES 74 (GL,F,B,S) (Mks D Redgrave) 8 Ball 5-10-0 — 9 Weight (4) 55									
breeding number. Draw in brackets. Sil-glass color F—brown, chest. S—slipped up. R— runner D—downy. H—half. B—black. Days of pregnancy V—very. L—lost. E—fresh. reference V—very. H—half. E—fresh.					course and disease history. BF—infected breast in latest scan. Going on which horse was was F—good to go, heavy. G—good. S—sick, good to go, heavy. Owner in brackets. Taining. Age and weight. Rises plus any allowance.				

BETTING: 11-1 Fairy Story, 7-2 Enchantment,

England player fined and suspended by county over allegations on Pakistan players

Lamb adds fuel to fire over ball controversy



Ball claims: Lamb leads his county in the field at Northampton yesterday

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE great cricket ball controversy, fuelled as much by a clumsy official silence as by any amount of innuendo, was both upgraded and upstaged yesterday, when Allan Lamb, having openly accused the Pakistan bowlers of cheating, was promptly and firmly punished by his county.

Lamb claimed he was acting in the best interests of the game when he said that Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis had been "getting away with murder" and were guilty of "repeatedly tampering with the ball". Northamptonshire, his county, did not agree, and neither does the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB).

A hastily convened committee meeting at Northampton decided that Lamb, the county captain, should be fined the maximum amount allowable, two weeks' wages, and suspended for the next two matches. The TCCB has the power to increase the measures if it sees fit, and its disciplinary committee will meet in the next few days.

Lamb will not suffer unduly from either of his county's strictures. Even a fine of around £2,000 will leave the England batsman with a hefty profit on his dealings with the *Daily Mirror* and the two-match suspension covers only one game in the Sunday League and one in the county championship, competitions which Northamptonshire have no chance of winning. A three-match ban would, significantly, have cost him his place in the NatWest Trophy final on September 5.

Lamb's allegations have outraged Imtiaz Alam, the Pakistan team manager, who called it "a very cowardly attack", adding: "He has only said this because he was paid a lot of money and he knows he will never play for England again."



A cricket ball is scuffed in normal use by contact with ground, bat and boundary fencing (figure 1). As the ball wears, the fast bowler tries to keep one side shiny and smooth by polishing to maximise the swing of the ball in the air. Allan Lamb's allegation is that the



Pakistanis used their finger-nails to accentuate the damage to the non-shiny side and thus increase the swing (figure 2). Lamb also said they disguised the damage by smearing sweat over the scuffed areas (figure 3). The Pakistanis have strongly refused the charges.



put in the post, reached the ICC at Lord's late yesterday. Lt-Col John Stephenson, the secretary, is expected to make a statement today.

Pakistan's reaction to this will be fascinating. Playing the last game of their tour, at Scarborough, they have repeatedly insisted they are innocent of all charges. A confirmation that Law 42 was applied would make this plea untenable and might also put a brake on the litigation, continuing against newspapers and threatened, yesterday, against Lamb.

The greatest danger of this whole sorry business, however, is that people are being led to believe the Pakistanis have revolutionised the game by doctoring the ball. In fact, even if proved guilty, they are doing nothing that has not gone on for generations past.

As David Lloyd, former Test cricketer and first-class umpire, said yesterday: "The whole thing is a hoot. People have been picking the seam for years. I've done it myself."

Lloyd puts the matter in perspective. Maltreating the ball is not new. England players are neither surprised nor offended by it. The difference in this case is that Wasim and Waqar are magnificent exponents of the fast bowling art, a fact which is increasingly being submerged.

There is certainly a whiff of expediency about Lamb's actions. I understand it was made plain during the Texaco Trophy games last weekend that he was not likely to be chosen for England's tour of India this winter. Armed with this knowledge, he has justified his lucrative outburst by saying: "I just couldn't stand by and see them getting away with breaking the laws of cricket time and again. In my view... it is cheating."

At the age of 38, with 79 Tests behind him, Lamb appears to have tacitly accepted

that his England career is over. He will feel aggrieved and mistreated, having had a good season with the bat, and in appointing himself "a spokesman for the players" he assumes rather too much.

Whether further action is forthcoming from Northamptonshire, who may consider he has compromised his position as captain, Lamb could now decide to end his career elsewhere, possibly with another county or even in his native South Africa, where he has a standing offer to return to Western Province.

So far, of course, nobody has officially confirmed that the ball change during the play at Lord's on Sunday — which Lamb claims to have personally prompted by bringing its condition to the attention of the umpires — was made under the law relating to unfair play. This is the great culpability of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Once Deryck Murray, the match referee, had made the ball change public, it made no sense to keep the reason secret.

Murray's report, which he apparently, if unbelievably,

Wasim and Waqar issue firm denial

WAQAR Younis and Wasim Akram, the Pakistan bowlers who are the subject of Lamb's ball-doctoring allegations, issued a rebuttal last night.

A statement issued through the players' agent, Jonathan Barnett, and Brian Moore, a solicitor, said: "We have read the various articles which have appeared in the press over the last few days which accuse us of cheating in the recent Test series against England. 'We categorically deny that

we have ever cheated or tampered illegally with any match ball in any game during our careers. The allegations made are deeply offensive to us and the entire Pakistani team."

"We have played in this country for both Lancashire and Surrey county cricket clubs and have bowled hundreds of overs for both counties. We have played in numerous county and Test games on a variety of grounds throughout the world; we have

taken hundreds of wickets on all different types of surfaces. At no time has any umpire, official or administrator had cause to allege we have done anything illegal."

"It is significant that these allegations are only now being made after we have beaten England in a Test series. It is very convenient to blame the failure of the English players' batting techniques on us."

"We are amazed that a fellow professional has

stooped so low as to make such unfounded comments in the papers. We can only guess at Allan Lamb's motives for his article in *The Daily Mirror*, but we hope that they are nothing so base as money or even worse our nationality."

"The upset and damage which has been caused to us by these articles is an extremely serious matter. We are taking details, legal advice and our rights to sue for damages are fully reserved."

Berger joins Ferrari

FERRARI yesterday announced that Gerhard Berger had signed a two-year deal with them, with an option for a third (Norman Howell writes). He will be joining Jean Alesi to form what a Ferrari spokesman called "the strongest team pair now in Formula One".

The deal is surprising, as there was no indication that the Austrian was unhappy at

McLaren, and suggests that he did not think that the English team would have a competitive engine for 1994.

Ron Dennis, the owner of McLaren, denied that the engine was an important factor in Berger's decision. "I am not upset at Gerhard leaving. Ferrari have offered him a more attractive package and I understand his desire to move on that basis," he said.

Another Premier League failure demonstrates Tottenham's need for Sheringham

Cantona restores Leeds pride

By LOUISE TAYLOR

HOWARD Wilkinson prides himself on his man-management, and with good reason. If Tuesday night's performance at Elland Road is anything to go by, Wilkinson's Leeds United trounced Tottenham Hotspur 5-0 to avenge for last Saturday's embarrassing 4-1 defeat at Middlesbrough.

Tottenham have yet to win a Premier League fixture. Without the departed Paul Gascoigne and Gary Lineker, they were not overburdened in the creativity department, and seem likely to renew attempts to attract Teddy Sheringham, the Nottingham Forest forward, to White Hart Lane in a £2 million transfer.

By contrast, Leeds, last season's Football League champions, seem to have found both flair and finishing in one player — Eric Cantona. The *enfant terrible* of French football emphasised his adjustment to the English game with three goals.

After Rodney Wallace had put Leeds ahead and Cantona contributed his three, the Frenchman created the fifth, for Lee Chapman.

Liverpool's less than lively start to the season continued at Portman Road, where they were lucky to draw 2-2 with Ipswich. Jason Dozzell and Chris Kiwomya were on target for the home side, while Mark Walters and Jan Molby, with a debatable penalty, scored for Liverpool. Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, said:

"If that penalty had been awarded against us I would have been disappointed."

Crystal Palace's 1-1 draw with Sheffield Wednesday at Selhurst Park featured a danger from Nigel Martyn in the Palace goal. Midway through the second half Martyn dropped a corner from the impressive Chris Bart-Williams at the feet of Paul Williams, who hooked in an equaliser. Palace had gone ahead thanks to Eric Young's header from an earlier corner.

Maurice Johnston's future at Everton has been the subject of much recent speculation but the former Scottish international had the perfect response for his critics at Goodison Park. Johnston's 88th minute goal gave Aston

Villa a 1-0 win over Everton.

The Wimbledon old boys reunion at Bramall Lane ended in a 2-2 draw between Dave Bassett's Sheffield United and Wimbledon. That means that Bassett has never celebrated a win against Wimbledon since leaving London SW19. Glyn Hodges, once of Wimbledon, tried his best to remedy Bassett's record by scoring United's second goal.

Robert Lee scored one goal and made two others as Charlton Athletic went five points clear at the head of the first division of the Football League by beating Bristol Rovers 4-1 at Upton Park. Lee is expected to sign for Middlesbrough by the weekend.

Notts County lost the night's other first division fixture 2-1 to Watford at Meadow Lane. Jason Dwyer and Paul Furlong, fresh from Coventry, scored for Watford.

Andrew Cole, the forward signed by Bristol City from Arsenal for £500,000 this summer, has done little else but score goals since arriving in the West Country. He claimed another three in the Coca-Cola Cup first round, second leg, at Ashton Gate. City prevailed 5-0 on the night and 5-1 on aggregate.

In surprise cup results, Exeter City knocked out Birmingham City and Carlisle United removed Burnley.

formally charged the player on Tuesday. Taylor yesterday said: "It is a very serious charge to level against any professional sportsman and I know that the player will be strenuously refuting the allegation."

Durie was given 14 days from Tuesday in which to request a personal hearing against the charge. Taylor must decide whether Durie or the referee is in the right.

Durie, a former Scottish international, faces the first such charge to be made against a professional footballer after an incident at White Hart Lane last week when he and Andy Pearce, the Coventry central defender, were both booked after an apparent head-butting incident.

Dermot Gallagher, the referee, subsequently accused Durie of acting and, after studying his official report,

disappointed, although not nearly so much as the sponsors or BBC Television, planning to screen approximately six hours of live play, or the spectators.

This is not to demean the likes of Colin Montgomerie and Steven Richardson, David Feherty and Sam Torrance, Anders Forsbrand and Vijay Singh, all respected players.

But they have been given the unenviable task, along with the rest of the supporting cast, of satisfying, above all, the board of Whitbread plc, the company that markets Murphy's.

The promoters, PGA European Tour Enterprises (PGA ETE), were put in a difficult position two months ago when EGP, a partner in the venture, went out of business.

George O'Grady, the PGA ETE managing director, put together a rescue package of which he is justifiably proud, even though he failed to hook one of the big fish.

Ballesteros could not be enticed from Spain because his wife, Carmen, is expecting their second child next month. Faldo said long ago that he would take a break after the US PGA championship. Olazábal refused to abandon a shooting holiday. The health of his daughter and Lyle and Woosnam found a

Auxerre teenagers head for Leeds

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

LEEDS have emerged as favourites to sign two of the brightest young talents in British football. This follows talks between Howard Wilkinson and Guy Roux, the manager of the French club, Auxerre.

For weeks the players have been willing away their time playing beach football as wangles over their possible transfers have gone on. They are the former England youth internationals, Jamie Forrester and Kevin Sharp, both 17.

After graduating from the FA School of Excellence, the Blackpool-based players turned their backs on British football and signed for Auxerre.

Now out of contract with Auxerre and homeless, they have interested three Premier League clubs. Auxerre's original £400,000 valuation for the pair has dropped, and the players' agent is seeking permission from France for them to train in England following increased interest by Leeds, who have been in talks with Auxerre.

They are expected to spend a week at Elland Road, when personal terms will be discussed. Forrester said: "We

have been in a state of limbo for weeks. We have been back in Blackpool as phone calls and faxes have been going on between England and France since we turned down Auxerre's offer of a three-year contract. All we want is for the matter to be sorted out as quickly as possible."

Forrester, a forward, and Sharp, who plays in midfield, have played together since they were at junior school. They accept that the partnership may end.

Charlton, the first division leaders, are involved in a race against time to secure their return to The Valley. Charlton, still £200,000 short of the sum needed to finance an October return, are legally bound to confirm plans tomorrow. Supporters have contributed more than £1 million to the Valley Investment Plan. Club officials were last night in talks to raise funds.

Martin Simons, a director, confirmed: "The cut-off point is Friday, when we must decide to resume building work or repay all the money to supporters. We will be negotiating up to the wire to raise the outstanding sum. We do not want to go ahead with work and run out of money."

The culling fields



IN the Saturday Review this week, how deer are eating the Highlands to destruction. Plus: Gordon Burn on romance at Victoria coach station and William Cash meets Hugh Hefner, finding the creator of Playboy uneasy in a post-feminist world.

THE TIMES

Leading players fail to support English Open

By MITCHELL PLATT
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TOM Watson, the United States captain, has expressed the hope that all his players will visit The Belfry before the Ryder Cup match next year. Yet Severiano Ballesteros, Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer, Sandy Lyle, José María Olazábal and Ian Woosnam, who are likely to form the nucleus of Europe's team, have declined the chance to refamiliarise themselves with the course in the Murphy's English Open, which starts tomorrow, despite a prize fund of £550,000.

Bernard Gallagher, the captain of Europe, will be disappointed, although not nearly so much as the sponsors or BBC Television, planning to screen approximately six hours of live play, or the spectators.

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But they have been given the unenviable task, along with the rest of the supporting cast, of satisfying, above all, the board of Whitbread plc, the company that markets Murphy's.

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Montgomerie on parade

little gentle persuasion not to be generous enough. Questions are sure to be asked at Whitbread's headquarters in London. The company could withdraw its support in the future, but the likelihood is that it will give the benefit of the doubt to the promoters. It will, however, want an assurance that one or more of the very best European players will compete in future.

The Tour has increased the total prize-money from £2 million to £20 million in ten years, however, if it is to continue to beat the recession, it will need to satisfy sponsors that it has the support of all players.

Whitbread was encouraged to relinquish the Murphy's Cup, in which both Lyle and Woosnam played and in

which the prize-money in 1991 was £350,000, in favour of the English Open and awarded the players a 63.63 per cent pay rise.

But the only one of the top 20 in the Sony world rankings on view will be Roger Davis, who is eighteenth. Moreover, only four of the present top ten in the Volvo order of merit have entered.

It is not what Whitbread envisaged. The PGA European Tour can probably be assured of the brewery's continued backing as long as the support of the players can be guaranteed. If not, sponsors might be tempted to look elsewhere.